THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. LXII., No. 1652. SHANGHAI, APRIL 3, 1899. PRICE, Tls. 12 ℔ AN.

CONTENTS.

Advertisements—Latest dates—Births, Marriages, and Deaths, etc.
Arrivals and Departures of Passengers, Shipping, etc.

LEADING ARTICLE—
China and its Government 561

SUMMARY OF NEWS 562

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES—
The Hongkong Post Office 569
The Suppression of Rabies 569
The Finances of the Province of Kiangsu 569
The Report of the China Association for 1898 570
The Disaster in the Channel 571

OUTPORTS, ETC.—
Ichang 572
Mokanshan 572
Nganlufu, Hupeh 572
Peking 572
Tientsin 575
Wênchow 575
Loudon 575

MEETINGS—
The Municipal Council 576
The China Association 576

REPORT—
The Shanghai Rangers' Athletic Club.. 577

AMUSEMENTS—
The Shanghai Golf Club 578
Football 578

CORRESPONDENCE—
Post Office and other Grievances..... 578
The Hongkong Post Office 578
A Boat Race in the North 579
The Tungsha's Siren 579
The Suppression of Rabies 579

MISCELLANEOUS—
The Good Friday Performance of *The Crucifixion* 580
The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Permanent Memorial Fund 580
Books, Etc., Received 580
The *Ching Chang* and *Hui Chang* Offices 580
Anti-Foreign Outrages in Shantung 580
The Stars and Stripes at Manila 581
The Fighting at Caloocan 582
The Mental Mirror of a Nondescript .. 583
In the *Hinterland* of Szechuan 583
The Great North-West and Klondyke. 585
Lord Beresford's Visit 586
The New *American Boy* 587
The Largest Railway Station in the World 588

LAW REPORTS—
H.B.M.'s Supreme Court—
In re Watson & Co. (Appellants) and E. Q. Cooper (Respondent) 589
H.B.M.'s Civil Summary Court—
Sunder Singh *v.* Chita Singh 589
H.B.M.'s Police Court—
R. *v.* Hopkins 590
Mixed Court—
Sundry Cases 590

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE AND WEEKLY SUMMARY—
Market Report 593
Exchange Quotations..... 597
Share Quotations, etc. 600

Miscellaneous Intelligence.

LATEST MAIL DATES.

England .....Feb.	24	Hankow .....Mar.	30
San Francisco Mar.	1	Yokohama ... ,,	23
Hongkong ... ,,	29	Nagasaki ... ,,	27
Tientsin ..... ,,	30	Foochow ... ,,	30

Shanghai mail advices of the 21st of Feb. were received in London on the 28th of March.

The North-China Herald.

IMPERIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI MONDAY, APRIL 3, 1899.

CHINA AND ITS GOVERNMENT.

LORD SALISBURY regards the Chinese government as a "going concern;" the Chairman of the Shanghai branch of the China Association, with a much clearer appreciation of the facts, regards it is a "gone concern;" and the *Times* bluntly characterises it as "a sham," the only salvation for China being in a foreign protectorate, the *Times* thus confirming independently what we wrote on Good Friday morning. The private letter from Ichou from which we quote in another column shows what the condition of the north-east of China is under the benign rule of the Dowager-Empress, whose usurpation was so blandly accepted by our representatives at Peking. Murder and robbery, attacks on inoffensive foreign travellers, are reported day after day; the local officials some of whom are anxious to do their duty have no force at their command, and get no support from their superiors. These superiors, it must be remembered, have paid large sums of money for their posts, and their action therefore is such as they believe the high authorities in Peking will approve, for to be condemned and cashiered means ruin. This letter from Ichoufu shows at the same time how easily these outrages might be suppressed if the Government really cared to prevent them; the three Germans, armed only with revolvers, pluckily beat off their assailants, a hundred or more bandits armed with guns and jingals, and reached Ichoufu safely. Similar outrages have been going on for months in Szechuan, and it is to be noted that it is in the north of China, near the so-called central Government, that the country is most disturbed. The Yangtze Valley is kept in comparative quiet by two capable Viceroys, T. E. Liu Kun-yi and Chang Chih-tung, without any assistance from Peking, and a similar condition prevails in the south of China, which is still farther removed from the capital. General Parsons of the American Syndicate, who has been lately surveying for the line from Hankow to Canton, which will probably be built long before the Lu-Han railway, notwithstanding all the protestations of the Belgians and their friends, reports that his party had no trouble of any consequence in their journey through Hunan, supposed to be the most anti-foreign province in China, and Kuangtung.

Meanwhile, the condition of things in Peking is very bad and is likely to become worse. The Tsungli Yamên is a collection of incompetent fossils, and the Empress-Dowager is filling all the high offices throughout the empire with Manchus, as fast as she can find sufficient pretexts for displacing the Chinese incumbents. A more short-sighted policy, if she is really anxious to keep the present dynasty on the Throne, it would be difficult to adopt, and we learn privately on very well-informed authority that there is a great deal of disaffection even in the capital. The management of Chinese affairs is, we know, in the hands of unsafe and incompetent men, and many of the men who are now in charge of the Foreign Legations, able and intelligent as they are, have little experience of the Chinese character and ways; and prudence and vigilance are specially required, with so many ignorant and reckless Tartars in high office. The time is rapidly arriving for the grand "review" ordered by the Empress-Dowager of a very large proportion of the more or less disciplined troops in North China. In June, as our Peking correspondent mentions, some two hundred thousand braves will assemble in the South Hunting Park to "beat the air"—and any foreigners who may happen to make their acquaintance. Among these chartered rowdies will be at least ten thousand of General Tung Fu-hsiang's Kansu men who were so uncontrollable when they visited

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

Peking last year. This irresponsible army of unscrupulous ruffians, who are at the best of times as great a terror to the peaceful people as any rebels, will be within four miles of the capital, and will be emboldened by their numbers and the evident favour of the Empress to behave exactly as seems good in their own eyes; and under these condition it seems to us most imprudent, to say the least, to withdraw the Legation Guards. Three hundred disciplined white men would be quite enough to keep them in awe: but it will be surprising, if, with the Legation Guards withdrawn, something does not happen to justify Russia in sending a force from Port Arthur to make existence safe for foreigners at the capital. Perhaps this is one of the conditions of the amicable arrangement that has lately been come to between Great Britain and Russia, and Peking is recognised as being within Russia's sphere of influence. When an Empire is breaking up, as China is, we cannot tell who or what may be involved in the ruin.

The landing of German troops on the coast of Shantung and the occupation of Ichoufu are not the beginning of the end, for the end began before that, but they are a long step towards the end, and they are a step which Germany is perfectly justified in taking: it would have been better if we had taken such a step, as we recommended at the time, after the Kuchêng massacre. China was practically doomed when our representatives acquiesced in the *coup d'état* last September. The young Emperor's government was a government with life in it, the Empress Dowager's is a government with death in it. We might have supported the former when the crisis came, and helped a new China to rise out of the ruins of the old: but our Government preferred to look on and do nothing, and we are beginning to realise the consequences of our apathy.

Summary of News.

The French mail of the 25th of February arrived here on the 31st ult. by the M.M.S. *Ernest Simons*.

A mail leaves to-morrow afternoon for Europe by the M.M.S. *Yarra*.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

SUPPLIED THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY EXCLUSIVELY TO THE "NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

London, 27th March.

THE TENIFICATION OF LONDON.

The London Government Bill has passed its second reading by 245 to 118 votes.

THE HERO OF DARGAI.

A sword of honour was presented to Colonel Mathias of the Gordon Highlanders at the annual dinner of the Pembrokeshire Club.

London, 28th March.

THE *UITLANDERS'* GRIEVANCES.

A petition to the Queen signed by 21,000 *Uitlanders* has been presented to Sir Alfred Milner, Governor of the Cape Colony, declaring that their position is intolerable and praying for an enquiry.

THE *TIMES* ON OOM PAUL.

The *Times* asks, will President Krüger disregard the warnings given him until it is too late?

THE SOUDAN RAILWAY.

The railway has already reached fifty miles south of Atbara, and will be completed in November next.

London, 29th March.

THE HEALTH OF THE POPE.

His Holiness the Pope is decidedly stronger and has resumed the celebration of Mass.

THE DUTY ON BOUNTY-FED SUGAR IN INDIA.

Mr. Brodrick explained in the House of Commons that all the circumstances connected with our foreign treaties were fully weighed before the Indian countervailing sugar duties were decided upon.

London, 30th March.

THE PROGRESS OF WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

Experiments have been going on in wireless telegraphy between Boulogne and the South Foreland, and messages have been transmitted with perfect ease and regularity.

THE PARTITION OF CHINA.

The Danish Parliament has voted a credit for the dispatch of a cruiser to China.

THE DREYFUS CASE.

The entire Court of Cassation is examining with closed doors the secret *dossier* in the Dreyfus case.

THE PARLIAMENTARY HOLIDAY.

The House of Commons has adjourned until the 10th of April.

London, 31st March.

FIGHTING IN SAMOA.

Reuter's correspondent at Apia wires on the 23rd of March, that Mataafa, the *protégé* of the Germans, continuing to disregard the treaty with the British and American Consuls, the naval officers sent him an ultimatum. The Mataafans responded by attacking Apia when three blue-jackets were killed and one American was wounded. Several British and American ships thereupon bombarded the Mataafans, and the German residents took refuge on board H.I.G.M.S. *Falke*.

THE ANGLO-FRENCH AGREEMENT RESENTED IN ITALY.

The correspondent of the *Times* at Rome states that the Anglo-French Agreement is bitterly resented in Italy, because it is regarded as excluding Italy from the eventual occupation of Tripoli and its *hinterland*.

1st April.

TERRIBLE DISASTER IN THE CHANNEL

The London and South-Western Railway Co.'s steamer *Stella*, with 140 passengers and 41 crew, from Southampton for Guernsey, struck the Casquet rocks in a fog on Thursday afternoon, and sank in ten minutes, her boilers exploding. Seventy-four passengers, comprising most of the women and children, and nineteen of the crew were saved in the boats; upwards of eighty were drowned.

A GOOD YEAR.

The revenue for the year ending the 31st of March shows a net increase of £1,841,039.

SPECIAL TELEGRAMS TO THE "NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

Yunnan, 28th March.

THE OPENING UP OF YUNNAN.

It is reported that the Governor-General of Tongking is coming in April to second the French missions now in Kueichow.

Messrs. Davies, Ryder, Watts, and Jones have arrived at Yunnanfu, and proceed to meet Messrs. Pottinger and Hunter near Pichieh.

Hongkong, 1st April.

THE PROGRESS OF THE U.S. TROOPS AT MANILA.

The Second Division under General McArthur has occupied Malolos without opposition. The insurgents retired to Calumpu two days ago, leaving a small force, who burned the town on the approach of the U.S. troops.

SPECIAL TELEGRAM.

Peking, 1st April.

GERMAN TROOPS LANDED IN SHANTUNG.

News has just been received from Jihchao, eighty miles east of Ichoufu, that a body of German troops, having landed from German men-of-war on the coast, started to-day for Ichoufu in order to pacify the country.

The Director of Sicawei Observatory reports:—Monday, 27th March, 10 a.m.—*State of the atmosphere on the 26th*—High pressures over Central Siberia and Western China. The depression that prevailed on the 25th on the Gulf of Pechili has moved N.E.-wards and reaches Vladivostock:—*State on the morning of the 27th.*—The barometer fell rapidly yesterday in the afternoon; a light depression seems to have originated in the S.W. of China, having rapidly travelled towards Shanghai. —*Probabilities, 6 p.m.*—There is a new depression in the Gulf of Pechili with a S.W. wind prevailing now on the N. coast, which will be followed by rather strong N.W. winds and rainy weather. In the S. the N.E. monsoon will be temporarily interrupted but will set in again at the rise of the barometer at Shanghai. —Tuesday, 28th March, 10 a.m.—*State of the atmosphere on the 27th.*—Depression over Northern China and the Gulf of Pechili. Centre of rather high pressures over the South of China. *State on the morning of the 28th.*—The barometer is rising again at Shanghai. *Probabilities, 6 p.m.*—Quite uncertain weather. Moderate N. winds are likely to prevail on the N. coast, and light variable winds on the S. coast.—Wednesday, 29th March, 10 a.m.—*State of the atmosphere on the 28th.*—Light

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

depression on the Yellow Sea. Low pressures over the whole valley of the Yangtzekiang and rather high pressures over the S. of China and the Pacific. *State on the morning of the 29th.*—Low and still falling barometer at Shanghai. *Probabilities, 5.15 p.m.*—There is an appearance of a depression in the N.W. and we may expect to see the wind to-morrow shift to the N.W. bringing some rain. Light S. winds are likely to prevail on the S. coast. —Thursday, 30th March, 10 a.m.—*State of the atmosphere on the 29th.*—Area of high pressures, N.W. of Tientsin. Depression over the Valley of the Yangtzekiang. A second depression over Yeso and a second area of high pressures over the Sea of Okhotsk. Winds of unsteady directions along the coast of China.—*State on the morning of the 30th.*—The area of high pressures has moved E-wards and is now spreading over the whole of Northern China. *Probabilities, 5.30 p.m.*—The weather will likely improve. Light variable winds will probably follow the N. wind on the N. coast. Strong N.E. winds will set in on the S. coast.—Friday, 31st March, 10 a.m.—*State of the atmosphere on the 30th.*—Very wide depression over the Yellow Sea between Touchow and the Corean Strait. Area of high pressures over Northern China. Storm from the N. quadrant along the N. coast. The thermometer has been falling all the day long. *State on the morning of the 31st.*—The area of high pressure spreads actually over the whole of China.—Saturday, 1st April, 10 a.m.—*State of the atmosphere on the 31st.*—A centre of higher pressures on the mouth of the Yangtzekiang. A centre of depression to the N.E. of Yezo Island; another to the N.W. of Peking, possibly spreading over the W. of China. *State on the morning of the 1st.*—Barometer falling at Shanghai. A depression seems to be coming from the East.—Sunday, 2nd April, 10 a.m.—*State of the atmosphere on the 1st.*—Area of higher pressures over the Eastern sea and the W. of Japan. Depression over the N.W. of China. *State of the atmosphere on the 2nd.*—Barometer low at Shanghai. A wide depression seems to spread over the whole N. of China. *Probabilities, 6 p.m.*—A depression starts to-day near Shanghai moving eastward. Moderate N. wind will prevail on the N. coast, and the N.E. monsoon, which was interrupted in the S., will set in gradually. Weather uncertain.

There was a difference of nearly 28 degrees between the maximum reading of the thermometer on Thursday (45°.1 and on Wednesday (72°.9).

The average minimum of the thermometer in the Settlement in March was 43°.88, the average maximum 56°.70, and the mean 50°.29, against 39°.03, 50°.03, and 44°.53, respectively, in March 1898. The rainfall in March was 2.19 inches, and rain fell measurably on 12 days, against 4.30 inches and 17 days in March 1898, and an average of 3.69 inches and 11½ days for the seventeen years 1882-1898.

Readings for the Week.

(Thermometers in the open air in a shaded situation in the English Settlement.)

		1899. Fahr. Thermometer. Min.	Max.	Rainfall in inches.
Mar.	27	42°.9	68°.6	.. ..
,,	28	51°.3	74°.0	.. ..
,,	29	53°.2	72°.9	.. ..
,,	30	44°.0	45°.1	0.39
,,	31	37°.6	56°.4	.....
April	1	41°.8	61°.3	.....
,,	2	50°.1	56°.3	.....
		1898. Min.	Max.	
Mar.	27	43°.2	4°.9	.....
,,	28	41°.2	60°.7	.....
,,	29	50°.0	55°.0	0.42
,,	30	49°.0	54°.3	0.22
,,	31	51°.9	60°.2	0.59
April	1	40°.5	57°.1	.....
,,	2	44°.2	51°.1	0.19

We understand that a result of Mr. Fearon's visit to Peking is that the Diplomatic Body have decided to confirm and enforce the new Land Regulations without waiting indefinitely for the Tsungli Yamên's approval; and that the Extension of these Settlements is really in a fair way of being arranged satisfactorily.

We learn on good authority from Peking that it is the German Minister who has been urging the Italian Minister to claim Sammên Bay. The same opinion prevails in Peking as here, that it is a great pity that the British Minister was mixed up in the affair at all.—Great sympathy was expressed with Mr. Houston in the death of his young wife.

H.M.S. *Grafton* with Sir Claude Macdonald on board was expected to reach Woosung at 4 p.m. yesterday when the Minister was to tranship to the *Linnet*, which is to take him up to Hankow, and bring him back in time to meet Admiral Seymour here at the beginning of next week. Lady Macdonald is expected down by a coast steamer to meet Sir Claude here.

Lord and Lady Chichester arrived here yesterday *en route* for Yokohama per str. *America Maru*.

Mr. J. S. Fearon, Chairman of the Municipal Council, arrived here from Peking with General Parsons in the *Woosung* on Saturday last.

Amongst the passengers by the steamer *America Maru* from Hongkong are Major-General T. M. Anderson, wife and family, from Manila *en route* for the U. S., and Captain N. M. Dyer, U.S.N., who was in command of the U.S.S. *Baltimore* during the Hispano-American war, and who is now invalided home.

Mr. M. Boyd Bredon, Commissioner of Customs, who has just returned to Hongkong from leave, is appointed to Kiungchow, Hainan. Mr. James H. Hart, Commissioner of Customs, who has also been at home on leave, is expected here next week.

Mr. F. A. Aglen, Commissioner of Customs, who has lately returned from leave, will open the new treaty port of Nanking, left for that port on Wednesday morning in the R. C. *Chuentiao*, which will be his headquarters until the *Kiwaking* is ready.

The subscription to present Mr. C. J. Dudgeon, who is shortly leaving for home, with some well-deserved recognition of his great public services, is making rapid and satisfactory progress.

It will be learnt with regret that Mr. E. F. Alford has been obliged to resign the Chairmanship of the Chamber of Commerce, having been ordered by his medical adviser to give up all work for the present. He leaves for home by the Canadian Mail on the 8th inst.

The *Deutsche Vereinsmag*, the German institution on the lines of the China Association and the American Association of China, is being constituted, the provisional committee being Messrs. C. Brodersen, H. Heyn, A. Korff, M. Rohde, and M. Slevogt.

Despite the cold wind and the rain, sleet, and snow that were driven before it, a large number of their friends assembled on the Lipahli jetty on Thursday morning to "say not *adieu* but *au revoir*" to Commander and Mme. Vela. Among them were Miss Hannen, the Portuguese Consul-General Mr. Valdez, Tsai Taotai and his Secretary Mr. Fung Yee, the Italian Consul Mr. Ghisi and Mme. Ghisi, etc., etc., and a number of old members of the Philharmonic Society. The Commander and his talented wife will be very much missed in Shanghai, especially by all lovers of music, excellence in which they have done so much to promote. One characteristic of Commander Vela, not always found in professional musicians, has been that he has always given the most valuable and most cheerful assistance in his power to all amateur musical efforts, as well as to all wandering professionals of whatever nationality. We hope it will not be found that the Town Band Committee were a little too hasty in the changes they have lately made; meanwhile we are glad to know that it is not only possible but probable that Commander and Mme. Vela will be with us again before the century ends.

Mr. W. F. Inglis, of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., is leaving for home next week, and some of his friends entertained him on Good Friday at a picnic on board the tender *Victoria*. As the tender passed the U. S. transport *Grant*, coming back, the party on board sang the U. S. war-song "Marching through Georgia," the men on the *Grant* responding with three rousing cheers and a tiger. The *Victoria* then turned and steamed by the other side of the *Grant*, the party on board singing "Auld Lang Syne," which evoked the wildest enthusiasm on board the American transport. Slight attentions like this, spontaneous as they are, do much to promote the present good understanding between the Anglo-Saxon peoples. We may add that the *Grant* is a very large and nearly new steel steamer, formerly belonging to the Atlantic Transport Co., of London.

The performance given as a complimentary benefit to Mr. Albert Linton was repeated at the Lyceum Theatre on Wednesday evening, and attracted a fairly full house. The evening's entertainment was similar to that on Saturday except that the song put down to Mr. Evans was changed and the exhibition of living statuary was with-drawn. The sparkling French comedy *L'Ablette*—or farce—with which the performance opened was performed as briskly and ably as on the first occasion and was heartily applauded. For the first vocal piece Mr. Evans sang the somewhat vulgar ditty, *You've got a long way to go*, with which he has already supplied "Smokers" on more than one occasion, and on the demand for an encore supplemented it with another song of the same character. It cannot be denied, however, that a very large number among the audience enjoy these songs, and that Mr. Evans sings them in the true music-hall style. Miss Morton succeeded with *A Little Bit of String* for which she was enthusiastically applauded, and had to repeat the last verse and her graceful dance. Mr. Ugène once more convulsed the audience with laughter by his exceedingly clever song, *Viens, ma Josephine*, and a first-rate song he gave as an encore. Mr. Horatio closed the first part with his fine rendering of *The Storm Fiend* in character, but the limelight did not work effectively. After an interval the curtain rose on the skit, *The Sweeping Clean*, and on this occasion Miss Ruby Hamilton, who burlesqued the character of Galatea so effectively, appeared in the programme as representing Galashia. Mr. Vestibule, in his *rôle* of The Secretary, again secured the honours of the evening, supported by Mr. Frank, Misses Molecule and Ricardo, and Mr. Longsoks, while Miss Morton and Mr. Williams again sang the "Toy" duet from *The Geisha*, Mr. Timber-Yard being the accompanist. The piece again caused much laughter and was well applauded, but it seemed to drag in parts. At the conclusion the curtain was raised on the final tableau and there was a call for Mr. Linton, who bowed his acknowledgments.

We are informed that, at the approaching meeting of shareholders of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, the Directors will recommend a dividend for the past half-year of ten per cent per annum, free of income tax, placing £50,000 to the reserve fund, and carrying forward £14,000 to next year's account as undivided profit.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

We desire to call attention to the statement which will be found in another column of the position of the accounts of the proposed Victoria Nursing Institute for which, as will be learnt from the Council's minutes, the site is being prepared, and to add that the honorary treasurer, Mr. W. D. Little, will be glad to receive subscriptions from any firm or individual desirous of supporting the Institute.

Mr. P. Hildebrand, formerly of the Woosung Railway, was to begin the special survey of the railway from Kiaochou to Weihien on the 22nd ult. The general survey of the line from Tsintao to Chinanfu and back to Ichoufu and Tsintao, was finished four months ago by Mr. H. Hildebrand, the Managing Director of the Railway, and all the general plans for the whole line from Tsintao to Chinanfu were finished two months ago. The building of the line is to be begun very shortly, and the work will be pushed forward rapidly.

On inquiring at the Imperial Post Office as to the cause of the delay in the receiving of letters on the 24th of March which were posted in Tientsin on the 11th of February, we were informed that the mail which was dispatched on that day overland to Chinkiang was stolen by some brigands from the courier about 600 *li* this side of Tientsin. The mail having been recovered after the capture of two of the robbers was only received here *viâ* Chinkiang on Friday the 24th of March.

Gustavus Farley, jr., a well-known old resident of Yokohama, died at New York on the 18th ult.

The firebells rang on Tuesday morning at 2.15 and the firemen turned out as usual but found the conflagration was outside the Hongkew No. 2 district; several of the firemen, however, visited the scene, but could render little assistance. A Chinese hamlet was burnt out.

With the last number of the *Ostasiatische Lloyd* is given, as a Supplement, a large, (4ft. 6in. by 3ft.) coloured bird's-eye view by a Chinese artist of the German Settlement of Tsingtao in Kiaochou Bay. The contour of the land, and the buildings, roads, etc., are most clearly shown, and the visitor, with this excellent little plan in his pocket, could not possibly have to enquire his way, wherever he might want to go. All the principal points of interest are numbered, and there is a key in the corner of the plan.

The *Ostasiatische Lloyd* is not surprised to hear that Mr. Chêng, the Mixed Court magistrate, is anxious to get a quiet post at Nanking in exchange for the endless labour in Court both mornings and afternoons, and the mass of correspondence with the Consuls, the Police, and the Chinese Authorities. The Court is scandalously undermanned.—Prince and Princess Henry of Prussia are expected here on the 8th, and will make a trip up-country in a house-boat.—Dr. Betz has gone to Chefoo in the *Mathilde* to temporarily replace Dr. Lenz, the German Consul there.—It is hoped that Sir Claude Macdonald, who goes to Nanking in H.M.S. *Linnet* to open the port, will succeed at the same time in getting the Extension of the Settlement put through. But he ought to go up in the *Bonaventure*.

Mr. George Warren, whom some of our readers may remember as the hero of the flying trapeze in Harnsworth's Circus, though it would have to be a very strong trapeze that would carry him now, has arrived in Shanghai, and we are very glad to know that he will shortly be followed by the Circus of which he is sole proprietor and manager, and which has been performing with the greatest success in Manila and Hongkong. The flying trapeze business he has handed over to his two daughters, whose daring and intrepidity have gained for them unstinted admiration. Included in the troupe are Professor Bristol's stud of educated horses, which perform feats apparently unapproachable by the equine intellect; one of them does the flying trapeze, another works out on the blackboard sums set him by the audience, etc., etc., and there is an educated donkey that walks the tightrope with its balancing pole in its mouth. It is so long since we have had a circus that Mr. Warren should have a very successful season in Shanghai.

Warren's Circus opens here at the site on Broadway opposite the Sailors' Home on Wednesday next, and it promises to be a very attractive display.

The article in another column by an eye-witness of recent operations at Manila will be found interesting by reason of the facts it contains, but our readers will of course understand that our publication of it does not imply that we sympathise with the writer's tone. To us, what has taken place was inevitable under the circumstances, and we do not believe for a moment that any charge of inhumanity against the U. S. Commanders in Manila can be justified in any degree. The educated Filipinos, who are responsible for the fighting, know perfectly well that under the proposed American rule they would have had every possible freedom; and we have full sympathy for the deluded Filipino rank-and-file, who have been made the victims of the ambitions of their superiors.

We have drawn attention more than once to the great benefit that has been done to the beautiful science and art of horticulture in Shanghai by the Flower Shows that have been held here from time to time. In order that these exhibitions may be put on a certain basis, and for the encouragement generally of the cultivation of the "stars that in earth's firmament do shine," a Horticultural Society is being formed, with Mr. Drummond Hay as honorary secretary *ad interim*. Lists for subscribers to sign are now being sent round, it being calculated that 200 subscribers at $3 each per annum will cover the current expenses of regular displays every spring and autumn, and a sufficient sum will still be available for prizes to successful competitors. It is proposed that subscribers shall receive two admission tickets for each Show. The following gentlemen have consented to act on the Committee: Messrs. R. H. Beauchamp, the Count de Bezaure, J. C. Bois, Brodersen, Dr. Burge, H. W. Daniel, E. J. Hogg, Geo. Peebles, J. Prentice, J. L. Scott, and G. Sierich.

The entries for the Spring Race Meeting closed Saturday afternoon, the total amounting to Tls. 5,070, against Tls. 6,640 in the Spring of 1898 and Tls. 6,860 in 1897.

The following is the complete list of the three days:—

First Day.

	1898.	1893	1897.
1.—The Sub.-Griffins' Plate...	22	32	31
2.—The Criterion Stakes.....	15	21	18
3.—The Griffins' Plate.....	48	57	66
4.—The Cathay Cup	22	33	31
5.—The Jockey Cup	13	22	26
6.—The Hart Legacy Cup ...	22	26	30
7.—The Kiangsu Plate	12	24	22
8.—The Racing Stakes	33	30	33
9.—The Chihli Cup	21	29	27
10.—The Grand Stand Stakes.	21	26	31

Second Day.

1.—The Chukaza Cup	25	32	36
2.—The Shanghai Derby.....	29	42	44
3.—The Ladies' Purse	17	30	28
4.—The Race Club Cup	12	21	22
5.—The Concordia Cup	44	48	51
6.—The Mongolian Cup	22	30	28
7.—The Spring Cup.....	24	28	43
8.—The Shanghai Stakes ...	102	138	147
9.—The Scurry Stakes.....	46	47	51
10.—The Jessfield Cup	22	—	—
in place of			
The Professional Cup ...	—	41	—
in place of			
The Taotai's Cup	—	—	35

Third Day.

1.—The Great Northern Plate	33	48	46
2.—The Masonic Club Challenge Cup.....	31	48	44
3.—The Shantung Stakes ...	22	33	32
4.—The Pari-Mutuel Cup ...	36	55	52
5.—The Yangtsze Stakes ...	19	31	27
6.—The Manchu Stakes	58	56	65
7.—The Consolation Cup ...	31	50	53
9.—The Nil Desperandum Cup	22	31	28

TO BE RUN ON THE OFF DAY.

The Grand National Steeplechase.....	53	50	48

Scotsman, the winner of the Shanghai St. Leger and the Champions at the last autumn meeting here, was sold by auction at the Horse Bazaar on Tuesday for Tls. 1,650.

The new Tungsha Lightship *Tungsha* goes down to her station to-day. She is the model of what a modern lightship should be; 110 feet long, 24 feet wide, and with an average draft of 9 feet 6 inches; her frames are of steel with teak planking and all her decks and fittings are of teak; she has two watertight bulkheads, between which is the engine-room; she has plenty of sheer, and is altogether well worth going to see. Her lantern is like the lantern of a lighthouse, with nine lamps with 21-inch reflectors, in three groups of three, revolved by clockwork. She has two sets of oil engines for compressing the air for her siren, the indispensable trial of which caused so much groundless grumbling here last week. The reservoirs of compressed air and the oil-tanks are also in the engine room. She has a large deckhouse containing the clockwork for the lantern and the siren arrangements, the galley, etc., a large forecastle for the crew of twelve, with the watertanks under it, and a comfortable little saloon with a number of state-rooms aft. She carries a couple of guns for signalling purposes, a life-boat, and a dinghy, has a very powerful windlass, and a couple of powerful winches, which corroborate each other, for hoisting the lantern. She is commanded by Captain D. E. Christiansen who joined the service in November 1892, and has also two mates. She has already been fully described in our columns, and we can only add that under Mr. Harding's supervision she has been made as thoroughly complete for her work as a lightship can be.

The man Tourney, who was sentenced on the 30th of January to twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour, was on Sunday admitted to the General Hospital suffering from a mild form of small pox. Every precaution has been taken at H.B.M.'s goal to prevent an epidemic. Beyond the fact that a number of coolies, masons, and others have been working on the premises making the necessary alterations for the reception of the Municipal prisoners, who might possibly have introduced the contagion, there is no knowing how the prisoner became affected unless, his system, being perhaps somewhat run down, has been hyper-susceptible. Anent this terrible disease, this winter has been the worst known to the sisters at the hospital.

Tsai Taotai has returned from Nanking like the celebrated General Trochu with another "plan."

Kang Yu-wei left Japan for the United States by the *Idzumi Maru* on the 22nd. He called on the British and United States Ministers before leaving.

An expectant district magistrate named Yü Ta-yueh has been appointed by Governor Liu of Chêkiang as Assistant Commissioner of the Hangchow Bureau of Foreign Affairs.

An official dispatch from Hangchow states that a General commanding some 3,000 troops has been sent to the vicinity of Sanmên Bay and is expected to arrive there by the 6th instant.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

His Honour Li Kuang-chiu, the new Taotai of Shanghai, has, according to a private letter to his friends here, decided to take over his seals of office from Tsai Taotai some time during the middle of next month.

An official dispatch from Wuchang states that, owing to the unsettled state of affairs in China, the New Governor of Hupeh, Yü Yin-lin, has been recently busy raising extra troops who are to be drilled and armed according to modern methods.

According to a Peking dispatch the Tientsin Haikuan Taotaiship which is now vacant through the premature death of the Taotai-designate, Liu Ju-yi, will probably be given to Kao, the present Taotai of the Tsing-Ho Intendancy of Chihli, who has already been once Acting Haikuan Taotai of Tientsin.

A Wuchang telegram of the 2nd inst., states that H.E. Shan Lien (Manchu), the new Provincial Treasurer of Hupeh, was expected to arrive overland from Peking on that day, in which case H.E. must have taken over his seals of office yesterday from the Acting Treasurer and Provincial Judge Chü Hung-sen.

A Ningpo dispatch states that H.E. Wu Ying-sun, Provincial Judge-designate of Fukien and for many years Taotai of Ningpo, handed over the seals of the latter office to his successor Li Fu-yao, on the 26th instant. Li Taotai, however, it is further stated is not the substantive but the acting Taotai of Ningpo, having been appointed by the Governor of Chêkiang and not by the Throne.

We are informed from another most reliable source that the news of it having been the German Minister at Peking who urged his Italian colleague to claim Sanmên Bay is a grave misapprehension. If, on the other hand, it is said that here as well as in Peking the opinion prevails that it is a great pity that the British Minister was mixed up in the affair at all, it will easily be remembered that it is a well-known fact that the British Minister, under instructions from home, we presume, has strongly endorsed and backed up the Italian demand.

A telegram received on Wednesday by local mandarins from Peking having reference to the dangerous state of affairs in Kansu, though Mahommedan unrest, states that orders have been sent by the Empress Dowager to Viceroy T'ao of Lanchou, authorising him to raise extra troops for defence and also informing him that large consignments of quick-firing field pieces and machine guns, together with modern repeating rifles, will be sent at once to him sufficient to arm not only his levies but also all the Manchu garrisons at Hsining and elsewhere. Further that one or two well-known lieutenants of Generals Tung Fu-hsiang and Chang Chun will also be sent back to Kansu to take charge of the organising of the new troops and defence work generally in Kansu province.

It was currently reported in local mandarin circles on Wednesday that, if the alleged amended revised plan of Settlement Extension brought back from Nanking by Tsai Taotai, recently, be found acceptable to the Consular Body, Tsai will get a new lease of his Taotaiship, having obtained Viceroy Liu's permission to remain until the question be settled once for all. In this case the Taotai-designate Liu Kuang-chiu who, by the way, has already given up his post of Taotai of Fêngyang, will have to delay his arrival in Shanghai for at least two months. We do not place much faith in this report as we believe that Settlement Extension has been taken out of Tsai Taotai's hands altogether, and that the new Taotai will come here, as previously mentioned, in the middle of next month, receiving his instructions as to Extension from the Viceroy on his way here.

The following edicts were issued on the 31st ultimo:—Tsai Hsün, Prince of Chuang, is appointed Commander of the Guard and Comptroller of the Yungho Palace; Chin Ch'i, Prince of Kê Ching, is appointed to a similar post over the Wuying Throne-hall, and Prince P'u Lun over the Middle Throne-hall.—P'ang Hung-wên is appointed Vice-Director of the Office of Transmission (of Imperial decrees, etc.). — Ts'ao Hung-hsun is appointed Taotai of the Yen-Tung Intendancy, Yunnan province.—In response to the laudatory recommendations of the Generalissimo Jung Lu on the perfect discipline and effectiveness of the New Army Corps under General Yuan Shih-kai, near Tientsin, the said General is hereby handed to the Board for determination of extraordinary rewards. He is also empowered to name for promotion his best officers, as a token of the Imperial approval.

About a fortnight ago we acknowledged the receipt of the March issue of our smallest contemporary in China, *The Exchange*, published at Hsinchen, Honan, by means of a mimeograph, and the February number has since come to hand. Its belated arrival gives point to a paragraph it contains regretting some postal irregularities in that part of the empire. Some letters from home, dispatched last autumn, have not reached their destination, whilst the homeward Christmas mail also mysteriously disappeared "between Linch'ing and P'angchwang." Under "Hospital Items" it is stated: "The date painted on the ridge-pole of one of our hospital buildings shows that it was built over 290 years ago." A personal note reports that two foreign preachers had been beaten by the *hsien* magistrate of K'aifeng-fu, and on their appealing to the *fu* magistrate they were hus'led out of the city. Under the caption, "The Power of Fashion" the following anecdote, which can be commended to the *Tien Tsu Hui*, is related: "The young daughter of a missionary, having no foreign playmates, continually objected to being dressed in foreign style. She looked with longing eyes on the small feet of her Chinese playmates, and at quiet times used up all her mother's scrap cloth and rags, trying to bind her feet. Unknown to mother or father, she ordered a pair of small pointed shoes to be made for herself. Nor would she have her hair hanging loose, or have the plait tied with anything but a cord, as the other children called her ribbon a garter."

It is well-known that the Armstrong Company are building two large cruisers, the *Haitien* and *Taichi*, for the Chinese Government, and Messrs. Buchheister and Co., who arranged the contract, received a telegram on Thursday reporting that the *Haitien* had just had most satisfactory trials, her speed being 24.1 knots, making her the fastest cruiser now afloat. The length of these cruisers over all is 424 feet, and between perpendiculars 396 feet, breadth extreme 46 feet 8 inches, mean draft 16 feet 9 inches, and displacement 4,300 tons. They have twin-screw engines, giving 17,000 horse-power with forced, and 12,500 with natural draught, and eight boilers working at a pressure of 155 pounds. Their armament comprises two 8-inch quick-firing guns, ten 12-centimetre quick-firers, sixteen 47-millimetre guns, and six 37-millimetres, all of 45 calibres, and five torpedo tubes. They will begin their career under the dragon flag; it would be interesting to know what flag they will eventually carry.

Whilst the China Navigation Company's steamer *Pekin* was steaming past the Old Dock on her last voyage from Ningpo, a passenger ferryboat, in deliberately attempting, in face of the repeated warnings by whistle, to cross the vessel's bows was run into and cut in halves and all the occupants precipitated into the water. The engines were immediately stopped and every assistance rendered. Fortunately the company's launch was on the spot and succeeded in rescuing twelve of the passengers, the remaining two being picked up by the steamer. For once in the annals of Chinese river accidents no one was drowned, or we should say, no lamenting mother or widow has petitioned for succour.

It appears that it is an accident to one of her cylinders which rendered it necessary for the *Ernest Simons* on her arrival to be detained here; so that the *Océanien*, which was to have left with the homeward mail to-morrow, has gone back to Japan, and the *Yarra*, which arrived from Japan to-day, has to continue her homeward voyage to-morrow instead of waiting here a fortnight as usual. The delay in the arrival of the M.M.S. *Ernest Simons* was due to the bursting of the high-pressure cylinder, just as the steamer was arriving at Singapore, and she continued her voyage to Shanghai with two cylinders only. The necessary repairs will be made here in time for her to leave with the homeward mail on her regular day.

It is reported that H.M.S. *Hermione* is expected here shortly to relieve the *Bonaventure*.

The United States and China-Japan Liner *Catania* from New York left Singapore on the 25th for Shanghai direct.

The U.S.M.S. *Gaelic* arrived at Yokohama from San Francisco on the 29th ult., and may therefore be expected to reach Shanghai about to-morrow.

The U. S. M. S. *Doric* arrived at San Francisco on the 24th ult.

The N.-D.L.S. *Bayern* arrived at Hongkong on Monday afternoon.

The N.-D. L. S. *Prinz Heinrich* left Singapore for Hongkong and Shanghai at 8 a.m. on Thursday, carrying the Imperial German Mail, dated Berlin, the 6th of March.

The P. and O. S. *Ballaarat* with the London mail of the 3rd of March left Hongkong at 6 a.m. on Saturday for Shanghai. She brings 726 chests of Malwa opium, 5,889 bales of Bombay yarn, and 2,526 bales of Bombay cotton.

The *Stella*, reported lost on the Casquets, was a steel twin-screw steamer of 1,059 tons gross and 193 tons net register, and 360 nominal horse-power, built by J. and G. Thomson, Ld., at Glasgow, in 1890. Her captain's name was Lainson.

The Bar at Taku is now in a bad condition having only 9ft. 6in. at high water. Lighters are scarce owing to the difficulty of getting them up and down the river, although they do not load beyond 7ft. 6in. The China Merchants' str. *Kwangchi* is again rendering valuable services by lightering outside the Bar. It is reported that one of the T. T. and L. Co.'s lighters fouled the bow of a Japanese steamer and sank, and that she has since been raised. The railway company is working at high pressure transporting both export and import cargoes. The C. N. Co.'s str. *Wuchang* crossed on the 29th ult., with 11 ft. at springs, and that was the highest water for twenty-three days previously. The C. M. str. *Hsinyü* reports having to wait seven days at the Bar for a 10 ft. tide. Lightering is now going on briskly, there being better water in the river but the channels or gutter ways are far too narrow for navigation.

The steamers *Woosung* and *Hsinyü*, which left Taku on the 29th ult., encountered very heavy weather in the Gulf of Pechili. They crossed the Bar about 2 a.m. with a moderate N.E. wind and fine weather, but when off Shaluitien Island the wind freshened and at noon had increased to gale force accompanied with a heavy and blinding snowfall which lay some six inches on the vessels' decks. By this time a high sea had risen causing both steamers to roll and pitch violently. The former vessel, when within range of the Howki Light, unbent her cables and dragged, head to sea, by them until 6 p.m. when the weather cleared. The *Hsinyü* hove-to

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

from 11 a.m. until 9.25 p.m. Both vessels, on continuing their voyages, experienced strong N.E. winds and rough sea to the N.E. Promontory.

Past Assistant Engineer Holmes joined the U. S. S. *Monocacy* yesterday.

A special Notice to Mariners has been issued by the Acting Coast Inspector, Mr. W. Ferd. Tyler, drawing attention to the placing of the lightship *Omega* in place of the *Newchwang* at the entrance to the Liao River, and describing the vessel and the lights she carries, etc.

Mr. W. Ferd. Tyler, Acting Coast Inspector, has issued a Special Notice to Mariners, announcing that the *Kintoun* Light-ship will be replaced next week by the *Newchwang*, and the new Light-ship, which is fully described in the notice, will replace the *Newchwang* at the South Channel Entrance to the Yangtze.

We have received the March issue of *The St. John's Echo*, published bi-monthly by the students of St. John's College, Shanghai.

The annual report of the London Mission Hospital at Chungking, which is under the charge of Dr. Richard Wolfendale, L. R. C. P. & S., E., gives a very interesting and satisfactory account of the work carried on during 1898. The increasing importance of Chungking, in view of the proof that no longer do the rapids and gorges shut it out from the world, and the part it is destined to play in the development of the West of China, are pointedly set forth. The approval of the home directors to the building of a foreign hospital and dispensary in Chungking is all the more welcome, as indicating approval of the work already performed, and an appreciation of what will have to be done in the future. The hospital wards when completed will easily accommodate fifty beds for men, and for women, and private patients another fifty. The seriousness of Yü Man-tze's rebellion and the revolt in Chungking's sister-city of Kiangpeh, are pithily brought before us, and it is gratifying to see that, in spite of these hindrances, the great work of the medical missionary goes on. The hospital has some outlying dispensaries, and some useful native assistants, so that its benefits are not confined to Chungking.

We have received a neatly printed copy of the Thirty-ninth Annual Statement of the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the U. S., being for the year 1898. The heads of the Statement have already been received by wire, and it is only necessary to mention that the total income in 1898 was equivalent to £10,468,691, and the total expenditure to £6,823,740. The insurance in force at the end of last year was £205,657,736; the total liabilities were £41,887,252, and the assets £53,826,937, showing a surplus of £11,939,685; while even if it is supposed that only 3 per cent should be realised on the Society's investments in future, the surplus would be nearly thirty-five million gold dollars. Mr. J. T. Hamilton, the General Manager for the East, sends us this statement.

We have received *Meiklejohn's Japan Directory* for 1899, a very handy volume of 319 and xix pages, containing a full directory for Japan, a peerage, and other useful information, very neatly printed and bound, and published by Messrs. R. Meiklejohn & Co., Yokohama; and *The Child's Paper* for April, illustrated, published by the Chinese Tract Society.

Mr. G. M. Dent of Southport, England sends us a shilling pamphlet of 36 pages with a valuable table, written by himself, entitled: *How to select a Life Office so as to obtain a Maximum of Security and the Largest Return for Money; with illustrations proving the great value of Life Assurance as an Investment.* It takes the form of a series of interviews between an Insurance Broker, Mr. Prejudice, Mr. About-to-Insure, Mr. Own-Insurer, and Mr. Already-Insured; and anyone who is thinking of insuring his life will gain a great deal of light on the subject by reading this pamphlet, and studying the arguments brought forward. The pamphlet, which has already reached a third edition, is to be obtained from Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Ld.

We have received from Messrs. Voelkel and Schröder, the agents, a sample bottle of a highly nutritious, non-intoxicant, sparkling tonic, known as Malt Nutrine, prepared by the Anheuser-Busch Brewing Association of St. Louis, Mo., U.S.A.

We have to thank M. R. de Malherbe for a copy of the catalogue of his bronzes, porcelain, and curios that are to be sold by auction at the French Municipal Hall on Tuesday, the 11st inst., and following days; and are to be on view on Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday next. There are altogether 767 lots besides the cabinets in which they are displayed, and they include brass-work, gilt bronzes, bronzes with gold speckles, and bronzes with gilt relief decoration, of the 17th and 18th centuries; bronzes of the Ming and anterior dynasties; bronzes of the Ming dynasty inlaid with silver and gold; *cloisonné* enamels; blue and white porcelain, colour-d pottery and porcelain of many dynasties; curios in crystal, jade, agate, amethyst, and bamboo; and a magnificent *poliche* of the Ming dynasty of which a *replica* now in the Louvre was always thought to be a unique example. M. de Malherbe's taste and connoisseurship are well known, and this fine collection, which is to be offered without reserve except in a few instances, will undoubtedly attract a large attendance of collectors and admirers of Chinese art.

Messrs Moutrie & Co. have now on exhibition at their store in the Nanking Road two specimens of an exceptionally interesting musical instrument called the Symphony. It is in the first place an ordinary organ played in the usual way, but, further, by a particularly simple arrangement, can be played mechanically by means of perforated paper rolls. There are countless contrivances for the mechanical playing of pianos and organs, but the arrangement of the Symphony, will be admitted, we think, to be about as near perfection as possible. The *tempo*, stops, and expression are all under the control of the performer, so that there is nothing mechanical in the effect. One instrument, styled No. 500, is similar to the instrument in the Emperor's palace at Peking which Mr. Moutrie not long ago put in order as related in these columns. Its price is G. $500, and when the really magnificent qualities of the instrument are heard the price strikes one as moderate. Another style of the Symphony is No. 310, a little smaller, the price G. $200. Mr. Moutrie will be pleased to show the Symphony to anyone interested.

The value of the Mexican dollar has been fixed for the present quarter by the U.S. Treasury at 47.2 cents of the U.S. gold dollar.

The following notes are from the *Foochow Echo* of the 25th ult.:—

There was a slight shock of earthquake on Tuesday night last, soon after 11 o'clock. In houses by the river side, hanging lamps were set moving, but it was very little felt on the hill.

According to the figures of the Tea Brokers Association of London the deliveries of China Congou for the seven months ending 31st January, were as follows:—

Season 1898-99	11,224,000	lbs.
,, 1897-98	13,637,000	,,
,, 1896-97	17,908,000	,,
,, 1895-96	18,089,000	,,
,, 1894-95	20,702,000	,,
,, 1893-94	25,664,000	,,

We have received the *Peking & Tientsin Times* of the 25th ult.—The editor fully endorses all that our correspondents have written about the loss of mail matter sent to Hongkong, the treatment of the mails on the P. & O. steamers, and the necessity for registration where it is especially desirable that the letters, etc., should reach their destination.—An editorial on Mr. Brodrick's recent statements in Parliament with reference to China is headed "More Twaddle!"—In another editorial on "The Dwindling Dollar and Swindling Cash," it is proposed that the Government should coin token cash exchangeable at the fixed rate of 1,000 to the dollar. The rate at Tientsin on the 25th was 790.—The *Peking & Tientsin Times* notes that all the best appointments in the provinces are now being bestowed exclusively on Manchu officials.—It also states, but we believe that the statement is erroneous, that Lady Macdonald remains for the present at Peking and it is not quite settled whether she will accompany Sir Claude home or not. Mr. Bax-Ironsides has assumed charge of the British Legation.—Eighteen Honanese officers in the provinces have been denounced as reformers, and a secret edict has been sent to the Governor of Honan ordering him to investigate them.

The *Peking and Tientsin Times* says:—On Sunday, March 5th, the military companies of the Tientsin University conducted what was probably the first military funeral ever held in China by the Chinese. Mr. Li Wan, a student of the Preparatory Department, died during the latter part of the winter vacation, and as he was one of the first organisers of volunteer companies in the schools (as well as in China), the students conceived the idea of giving him a purely military funeral, President Tenney and Mr. Gammon assisting only so far as was necessary to arrange the details of the march and music. It was a rare sight to see a Chinese funeral lacking the crowd of coolies and the noisy Chinese musicians, with the bearers of the catapault *(sic)* neatly dressed and the procession marching in true orderly military style. Four companies attended, the remainder of the students following in ordinary costume. The band was kindly furnished and the procession moved through the Settlements to the station, from whence the body was sent to Shanghai. It is one of the signs of the times when such a radical change is made, and it speaks well for the progressive students who conceived the idea of making such a change in the customs of the Empire.

At the extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders in the Straits Insurance Co., held at Singapore on the 15th ult., the resolution for issuing new capital was carried by 12 votes to 6, the Chairman, the Hon. T. C. Bogaardt, explaining that the underwriting for the years 1895/6/7 would entail, before the accounts were finally liquidated, the writing-off as lost of half the paid-up capital of the Company. Mr. Thomas Scott moved an amendment for the winding-up of the Company, which was lost by 10 votes to 8. Another resolution was carried authorising the proposed new shareholders to vote personally or by proxy without regard to the length of time they have been registered as proprietors, and the meeting terminated.

We have received Hongkong papers to the 29th ult.—The Italian cruiser *Amerigo Vespucci* arrived at Hongkong on the 21st.—The detailed survey of the Canton-Kowloon railway is to be begun at once.—The Douglas Co. is to have opposition from a Japanese Co. on the run between Hongkong and Tamsui.—The future Italian squadron here is to consist of the *Amerigo Vespucci*, *Elba*, *Etna*, *Marco Polo*, *Piemonte*, and *Stromboli*, flagship.—A Singapore contractor named Rodrigues and two Chinese were murdered by dacoits on the Korat railway line in Siam in the latter part of February. The dacoits got clear off.—An island in the Mekong, partly under cultivation and with big trees on it, has entirely dis- appeared. The owner

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

searched for it unsuccessfully for three or four days.—Nine days' quarantine is being enforced at Saigon on vessels from Hongkong.—The export of arms from Hongkong is prohibited for a further four months from the 28th ult.—The Governor has accepted the Honorary Colonelcy of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps.—A notification has been issued by the Hongkong Harbour Master prohibiting the display of the British flag on uncertificated vessels.—H.M.S. *Centurion* left Hongkong on the 27th ult. for Nagasaki.—There has been no plague at Macao.—The *Bayern* on her last trip ran from Tungsha Light to Cape Collinson Light in 52 hours 12 minutes.—H.M.S. *Algerine* had been for several days at Bangkok, and was going thence to Labuan.—Agoncillo, the Filipino delegate in the U.S., was a passenger on the *Labrador*, which was wrecked early in March on the Hebrides.—Mr. H. C. Sparrow, of the China Traders' Insurance Co., a popular resident of Hongkong, died on the German mail steamer *Sachsen* on the 20th ult.—The death is announced of Major Evans, I.M.S., who was in charge of plague cases at Calcutta.—The annual inspection of the Hongkong Volunteers was to be carried out by General Gascoigne on the 29th ult.—The papers speak very highly of the representation of *The Sign of the Cross* by Messrs. Dallas and Musgrave's dramatic company.—The *China Mail* says that the rebellion has broken out again in Kuangsi, and is serious.

The Governor of Hongkong has promulgated Regulations providing for the quarantining for three months of all dogs imported from any place where a case of rabies has occurred within six months of the date of their shipment, while no dog brought from the port or settlement of Shanghai will be permitted to land in Hongkong for twelve months from the 20th ult.

We learn from the *Hongkong Daily Press* that an enhancement of fifty per cent in the Indian stamp duty payable on bills of exchange drawn on gold-using countries comes into force from the 1st of July next. It is brought about by a change recently notified under the Stamp Act by the Government of India which raises the equivalent of the sovereign from ten to fifteen rupees for the purpose of calculating the sum on which *ad valorem* stamp duty is payable. A corresponding reduction in stamp duty on documents of a similar kind drawn upon Hongkong and other silver-using countries is simultaneously made by the reduction of the rupee equivalent of the Hongkong dollar and the Japanese *yen* to one rupee eight annas for the purpose of calculating stamp duty.

We have received Japan papers with dates from Yokohama to the 23rd, Kobe the 24th, and Nagasaki the 27th inst.—The tedious dispute between the *Japan Mail* and one or more of the Kobe papers continues.—The *Mail* shows that Tokio, the capital of the empire, stands at the very bottom of the educational schedule in Japan.—President Hill, of the Great Northern Railway Co., U. S., is endeavouring to start a new line of steamers between Puget Sound and the Far East in connection with his railway.—The death is announced of Princess Kaiulani of Hawaii.—Kobe's Masonic Ball is postponed until next season.—The Brazilian Government has decided to abolish its Legation in Tokio.—The *Japan Mail* notes with satisfaction the rigid censorship exercised over the Press by the American authorities at Manila.—The Emperor and Empress of Japan are expected at Kioto at the end of April.—The St. George's Society of Yokohama and Tokio has been duly constituted to undertake the fit celebration of St. George's Day.—The monopoly of the importation of tobacco leaf into Japan comes into force on the 18th of August next.—The *Kobe Chronicle* congratulates itself that it has succeeded in the object which it has had in view during the last eighteen months in its systematic exposure of the methods of the *Japan Mail*. "The Japanese, it appears, have become convinced that a journal which, pretending to defend their interests, really provokes attacks on the Japanese Government and people, does immeasurable and almost irretrievable harm, and they have taken steps accordingly. If this information is accurate, the task that we set ourselves has been accomplished. The *Mail* may fume and fret, but its power for evil has gone, and it may now safely be left to its own devices."—A vernacular paper states that a Japanese Superintendent of Customs in Formosa has been appointed adviser to the Chinese Customs at Amoy.—The Nippon Yusen Kaisha are to open to-morrow a regular direct service between Hongkong and Vladivostock.—A telegram from Bombay says that the cotton mills there are almost at a standstill for want of labour.—The *Nagasaki Press* of the 27th has an account of a charming concert given at the Public Hall, Nagasaki, in aid of the local Seamen's Institute by the band of H.I.G.M. *Deutschland*, and some Nagasaki amateurs. Much gratitude is expressed to Captain Müller.

From the *Corean Repository (Weekly Edition)* of the 16th ult. we learn that the accounts of the Foreign Cemetery at Seoul for the past 18 months show a credit balance of $141.96. Any contributor of $10 or more is entitled to one interment, free of cost.—A Corean having received a cheque from a foreigner for $8 raised it to $800 and tried to cash it. He was arrested and on his explaining that he was under a ten years' contract with the foreigner and wanted to draw his whole salary at once, he was released by the Corean Solomon.—Japanese engineers have started to inspect the route of the Seoul-Fusan railway.—It is denied that the Pedlars' Guild has been reorganised.

We have received the *London & China Express* of the 24th of February.—The gross value of the estate of Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild is £1,438,128 14s. 8d.—The Chinese *matinée* at which Mr. Archd. Little's translation of *Borrowing Boots* was performed was well attended.—Mr. Pritchard Morgan will not resign his seat in Parliament, and will only visit China from time to time in the recess.—Mr. Henry Norman has retired from the Assistant Editorship of the *Daily Chronicle*.—President Loubet was for some time President of the French Bimetallic League.—In the House of Commons on the 23rd of February, Mr. Brodrick said that "the valley or basin of the Yangtze presumably includes, according to the ordinary meaning, the provinces of which the streams run into that river."—The P. & O. S. *China* arrived at Suez all well on the 17th of February, and proceeded to Belfast for refitting.—Silver was quoted 27 7/16d.—Tea was active at stiffer prices for the lower grades.—The *L. & C. Express* says:—"While Lord Charles Beresford was driving to the railway station at Chicago on Sunday, the horses slipped and the carriage tumbled over. The Commercial Traveller was uninjured, because, the report says, the doors of the carriage swung suddenly open. 'That,' said Lord Charles, 'illustrates the beauty of the open-door policy.' It seems rather to illustrate the activity of the British sailor."

The "Tenification of London" was the title for Lord Salisbury's measure brought forward two years ago for the emasculation of the London County Council; but this year's measure really contemplates the Fifteenification of London, for we read that London, excluding the City, is to be divided by it into fifteen municipalities, each with its Mayor, Council, Aldermen, etc., etc.

Mr. A. Michie writes to *The Times*:—The process by which the opening of Nanning has been achieved is worth notice. The initiative does not appear to have come from Peking, but from the provincial authorities of the province of Kuangsi, and there is every reason to surmise that their initiative was prompted by the representations of one of the most meritorious and least recognised of our Consuls, Mr. Hosie, who has been stationed at Wuchou since the opening of that port. Mr. Hosie is known to have interested himself in the opening of the West River, and he was already distinguished for suggesting explorations in the interior of China, carried out under great difficulties, and without ostentation. While stationed at Newchwang he studied Manchuria in a thorough manner, and it is to be hoped he may some day give the results to the public. It was thought to be an unhappy caprice of the powers that be to have removed such a man from a position where his special knowledge might have been turned to valuable account, but the accident of his transfer at this juncture to Southern China must be considered a happy one. With half-a-dozen Hosies on the ground most of its difficulties might similarly disappear. For the incident is one of several which have recently occurred to show that practical measures in China may be originated from below as well as from above, and often more effectually.

The following are extracts from an article on "Marine Insurance in 1898" in the London *Shipping World*:—

"The year is likely to be a memorable one in the annals of underwriting. In spite of heavy losses sustained in 1895, 1896, and 1897, and of frequent meetings of underwriters early in the year to consider the advisability of arranging more lucrative rates of premium, nothing definite was done, and the year's underwriting has closed with a list of known losses heavier than has been recorded since the year 1872. It is true that the rates paid both for time risks on steamers and on rough business were higher, but rates on high-class business show very little, if any, change for the better. This is all the more strange as underwriters have been in a better position to force rates up than has been the case for the last decade. The foreign companies have practically ceased underwriting to any great extent in London; there are fewer underwriters at Lloyd's and several British companies have had to restrict their scope. On hazardous risks underwritors, owing to the smaller market, have been able to get their own price, and this class of business during the year has been just as profitable to underwriters as the high-class risks have been unsatisfactory . . . . The losses of the year were very serious, especially so in the case of regular lines. Messrs. Elder, Dempster & Co. lost three boats, the *Dahomey*, *Laddana*, and *Calabar*, and had a serious claim of something like £60,000 on the *Milwaukee* which stranded. Messrs. Harrison lost the *Vesta*, *Cognac*, and *Legislator*; Messrs. Wilson lost the *Corso* and *Lepanto*, both sunk by collision, as well as the *Londonian*; Messrs. Thomson, of Dundee, the *Gerona* and *Ganges*; the Clan Line lost their *Clan Drummond* and *Clan Lindsay*; while the P. & O. lost the *Ganges* by fire, and had practically a total loss of the *China* in the Red Sea. The successful salvage of this steamer, and of the *Milwaukee*, stranded at Cruden Scars, rank as almost unparalleled in the annals of salvage operations. The losses sustained by underwriters through the *China* and *Matauna* were the heaviest of the year, both risks totalling something over £400,000 each. Other heavy losses were the

La Bourgogne (s.)	£260,000
Cromarty (s.)	220,000
Mohegan (s.)	150,000
Londonian (s.)	150,000
Westmeath (s.)	110,000
Glenavon (s.)	100,000
Hollinwood (ship)	100,000

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

"The risk of collision has become a serious factor in losses as well as in claims. Out of sixty-four total losses of steamers, fifteen were caused by collision, the most serious case being that of *La Bourgogne*, sunk off Sable Island by the *Cromartyshire*.

"In overdue risks the number of missing vessels was rather more than the average. Nine steamers and twenty-three sailing vessels of good size were posted as missing. Of the arrivals the *Barenscrag* reached port the day before she was actually to be posted as missing, all hope of her arrival having been abandoned. While only four vessels reached a rate of seventy-five guineas, and afterwards arrived, the steamer *Drummond* which had been abandoned with eighty guineas paid was picked up and safely towed into port."

We take the following from a note in the *Globe* on the future of the Philippines. It would be interesting to know of what value Palawan—an island full of savages and with no harbours—would be to great Britain :—

"Should the insurgents adopt guerilla tactics in the interior, their subjugation is bound to be exceedingly costly both in life and treasure. There is one way, however, in which it might be sensibly diminished without the least loss of prestige to the United States. By transferring the outlying island of Palawan to Great Britain, two good results would be accomplished. While the gift would be highly appreciated on this side of the Atlantic, and so strengthen the ties of friendship between the great English-speaking races, the American labour of conquest would be greatly lightened. Palawan is of great value to us, by reason of its commanding the nearest route from the China Sea to Australia, but its distance from the Philippine group would render its retention rather an encumbrance than an advantage to the United States."

The *Globe* of the 11th Feb. says :—"At the beginning of last month our Naval correspondent gave the copy of a letter which he had received from an officer of high standing in the China Squadron, regarding the serious absence of any proper telegraphic communication with Weihaiwei. At the time the letter was written our relations with France were exceedingly delicate, and the fact that the new headquarters of the North-China Station were unconnected by cable with Shanghai and Hongkong, caused a considerable amount of anxiety. We are, consequently, very glad to hear that Mr. Firbank is to question the First Lord of the Admiralty on Monday regarding this dangerous and unsatisfactory condition of affairs. At present, as our Naval correspondent pointed out, there is telegraphic communication with England *viâ* Chefoo and the North of China, but the land lines are constantly being interrupted, and Weihaiwei is entirely dependent upon the Chinese for its news. The gravity of such a situation cannot be over-estimated. In war time, or indeed, at the near prospect of war, we may be perfectly sure that the enemy's agents will take very good care that the land lines are hopelessly cut. The only way in which we can ensure communication being kept up with our Northern naval station is by an extension of the cable which now lies between Hongkong and Shanghai. By this means Weihaiwei will be brought into direct cable communication with England, and so long as we retain command of the sea so long therefore will the cable remain unimpaired. The whole question is one of expense, and any delay in its solution must be attributed to the Treasury absolutely. The Admiralty, we may rest confident, are fully alive to the urgent necessities of the case."

Transport of the 27th of January says :—"Railways in Burma and their Proposed Extension Across Yunnan" formed the subject of a lecture before the Society of Arts last week. The lecturer, Dr. Nisbet, Conservator of Forests, Burma, does not think the extensions across Yunnan would, if made, prove profitable, and one of his reasons is that the natural outlet for the trade of the Yangtze Valley is not through Burma, but by water to Shanghai. He said, further :—

"Any abnormally extensive endeavour to tap the trade of Southern and Western Yunnan by means of a railway would not be remunerative, for the very simple reason that this lofty plateau produced nothing in the nature of a trade capable of great expansion."

Dr. Nisbet instanced as a significant indication of the trend of local opinion on the subject that no pressure had been put upon the Government to undertake the line by the Rangoon Chamber of Commerce, the Press of Burma, or the Burma Railways Company. If the project were really so promising as represented, he argued, there would have been a strong demand from these quarters for action on the part of the Government. The truth was that the people in Burma were far more concerned in the development of their internal communications than in the prosecution of this dubious enterprise for a line through the mountainous districts of Yunnan.

An American exchange states that the U.S. transport *Zealandia*, which left here on the 5th ult. for San Francisco, experienced terrible weather whilst crossing the Pacific. The storm began at noon on the fifth day from Nagasaki. There was then a clear sky, but the wind had been steadily increasing from the westward, and by this time had reached the proportions of a gale. It steadily increased in force, bringing with it torrents of rain. The crew was kept hard at work all the night of the 10th and all the following day. The second night of the gale, however, was by far the worst. The hatches had long been battened down and the passengers kept below. All through the night of the 11th the captain was lashed on the deck, giving orders to his men. The waves broke over the ship constantly, smashing in the house amidships, carrying away companionways and battering down the woodwork all over the vessel. The saloon was flooded and water was shipped so rapidly that it required all the efforts of the crew, assisted by the soldiers who were able to work at the pumps, to keep the vessel from foundering. Several of the men were badly injured, including Mr. Deering, the chief officer, and Mr. Holloway, chief of the store department. The ship was running before the wind when the gale came on, and the captain did not dare heave her to. The machinery was of little use during the worst of the storm, and it was only with the greatest effort that sufficient control was kept to prevent the ship from getting into the trough of the sea. The storm blew itself out on the night of the 11th, and the morning of the 12th broke clear. Fairly good speed was made after that to San Francisco, and, beyond the death of the chief cook, there were no further mishaps. —*Nagasaki Press.*

The following fine verses are from the *Spectator* of the 21st of January :—

THE CZAR ALLY.

[The Czar on his way to Livadia stopped at the railway station of Tula and sent a request that Count Tolstoi would come to meet him. The greeting and conversation passed as described below.]

The White Czar looked across the world and saw
A tax-wrung Europe sweat in barren toil,
And each great power built up of petty griefs,
And his the greatest. So a thought arose,—
"I am the master; surely there is help."
The White Czar sent a message to the Courts,
And from the Courts a courtly answer came:
The White Czar sent his message to the world,
And from the world a sullen laughter came.
The White Czar called his servants, and he said:
"What help?" They answered, "Lord, there is no help;
You are the master. Spend, and we are safe."

The White Czar pondered. "Lo!" he cried, "a help!"
And southward sped along the iron way,
Built to bear armies. In his course he stayed,
And sent to one, no summons but a prayer.
He came, the peaceful rebel, teacher of those
Who, taught to suffer, will not learn to slay,
He, the strange saint, the new Augustin, came:
All peasant in his garb, rough, sheepskin-clad,
And on his breast a wilderness of beard,
Yet noble: and he stood before the Czar.
Then on his shoulders the White Czar laid hands,
Kissed him on cheek and mouth, and spoke his word,
"You heard my message. Is there any help?
What peace for Europe?" And the other said:
"Lord, you are master; bid your power disband."
The White Czar's eyes before that level gaze
Dropped, and his voice: "I am not master here.
You are a name in Europe. Speak of peace."
The other answered: "Lord, it shall be done."

And so they passed, crowned dreamer and uncrowned,
One to his hearth, there free at his own will
To live, love, suffer—free at least to dream;
The other guarded, fenced about with awe,
Lord of the swarming legions at whose word
All Europe quivers, Asia shakes, and he
To the Far East lays pathways for his might;
And bids the sea be furrowed with new deaths,
Strong to lay burdens on the groaning Earth.
O strengthless Might! O impotence of Power.

Stephen Gwynn.

The *Bureau Veritas Monthly List*, published on the 1st of February, of wrecks and casualties recorded in the year 1898, announces that 1,164 sailing vessels were reported as totally lost; 574 by stranding, 60 by collision, 16 by fire; while 71 foundered, 95 were abandoned, 258 were condemned, and 80 were missing. No less than 2,476 sailing vessels were damaged; 625 by stranding, 590 by collision, 66 by fire, 372 by leaks, and 823 by stress of weather. The steamers totally lost were 362; 161 by stranding, 53 by collision, 16 by fire; while 24 foundered, 6 were abandoned, 81 were condemned, and 21 were missing. The steamers damaged were 3,327; 869 by stranding, 951 by collision, 197 by fire, 64 by leaks, 467 by stress of weather; while 779 reported injury to their engines or boilers. Of the sailing vessels totally lost, 258 were English, 232 American, 195 Norwegian, 88 Swedish, 74 French, 69 German, 59 Italian, 55 Russian, and 31 Danish; the rest being divided among 12 other flags. Of the steamers totally lost, 173 were English, 28 American, 27 French, 26 German, 24 Norwegian, 19 Japanese, 10 Danish; the rest being divided among 14 other flags.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

Miscellaneous Articles.

THE HONGKONG POST OFFICE.

28th March.

The reply of the new Hongkong Postmaster-General to our correspondent "A Taxed Britisher," whose letter appears in another column, is the most preposterous thing we ever read, and it is evident that Commander Hastings, R. N., has not had time to take his bearings. As we have pointed out before, the charge for a half-ounce letter from Hongkong to England is 4 cents, and the charge from Shanghai to Hongkong is 2 cents, making 6 cents in all, while the British Post Office sticks to the old rate of 10 cents from Shanghai to England. A number of people, our correspondent among them, put 4-cent stamps on their letters and enclose them in a cover which they send through the Imperial Chinese Post, paying 2 cents a half-ounce, so that their letters cost them not over 6 cents each. This is absolutely fair and above-board; the tariff rates are paid to both Post Offices, only the British Post Office here loses its utterly unwarrantable squeeze of 4 cents a half-ounce; and on this being done, Commander Hastings stigmatises it as an evasion which he cannot be expected to connive at and actively assist, and he, absolutely with no right whatever, taxes letters which are already fully stamped.

It is, we think, for the Chamber of Commerce, which has so far, we understand, been unable to get any reply to its letter on this subject to the Hongkong Post Office, to take this matter up seriously. The late Postmaster-General at Hongkong was far from being a success, but the new one, if we may judge by the evidence, is no improvement on his predecessor.

THE SUPPRESSION OF RABIES.

29th March.

We are afraid that our much esteemed friend "Daybreak" hardly gave the matter the consideration it deserves when he wrote in the last issue of *Sport and Gossip* that he never heard of anything more ridiculous than the Volunteers being called out to promiscuously shoot Chinese dogs, mad or not mad. There is no farce about it, as we propose to endeavour to show. We presume that "Daybreak" agrees with the Council that it was desirable to thin out the half-wild dogs that have become such a nuisance as well as an undoubted danger on the outside roads. If rabies, which has become so prevalent of late, was to be eradicated at all, the Council were obliged to take this step; as we have written before, mothers were getting afraid to take their children out, and even grown-up men and women, not subject ordinarily to nervousness, were feeling a little uneasy. The Council, after having fully examined into the facts of the case, came to the conclusion that the resources at their command were not sufficient to cope with the existing condition, so as to restore confidence quickly, and they went to the Major Commanding, as having from his position in the Volunteers, and also as President of the Gun Club, a good deal of influence with the men who shoot in Shanghai. The Major naturally took it for granted that when the Council said it was necessary to destroy the wandering dogs on the outside roads, they had good reasons for their statement; and allowing that in the interest of the public safety the dogs had to be killed, the question was how best to carry out the decision, which was rather a more delicate matter than the man in the street might think, for—

(1) The shooting had to be done along or in the immediate neighbourhood of roads on which there were a good many wayfarers, foreign and native; and

(2.) There was the moral certainty that the shooters unless they were under some visible protection would be mobbed; not that the Chinese really cared about the lives of their curs, indeed, it was found in some localities that the natives were actually glad to be rid of them, so that the statement of one small humanitarian that every poor cur that was shot had some one to love it seems to be an exaggeration. But it would be too much for celestial nature to miss the opportunity of raising a row over a foreign devil if it could be done with safety, for possibly a row might result in compensation, and certainly it would be good fun.

Obviously, therefore, it would have been something more than indiscreet to turn a lot of men loose with shotguns to pot round as they pleased, both on account of other people and on their own account, and it was necessary to provide protection for the shooters, and to keep them under control. The first idea was to get outsiders to do the shooting and simply provide them with escorts of Volunteers, but the officers who were to command the escorts said very naturally that if they were to be responsible for the shooters not getting into trouble themselves, or getting other people into trouble, they, the officers, must choose the men who were to do the shooting. Hence it followed that both the shooters and the escorts were drawn from the Volunteers, though in theory they remained separate, the citizen who willingly lends a hand to the authorities—as he is indeed bound to do—to abate a dangerous nuisance, and the soldier who accompanies that citizen to take care that he comes to no harm. This is a situation with which no free man in a free State can find fault, theoretically or practically.

Of course, this is properly police duty, but then soldiers as well as citizens, the constitutional *posse comitatus* of our institutions, have to take up police duty when the police is for any reason insufficient; and in this case it would have manifestly thrown the routine of the police out of gear to ask some thirty constables to do a couple of hours' extra duty in the morning, especially when it is the boast of our Volunteers that the minute a police job gets too big for the police, they are here to step in and see it through.

The man must have a remarkable mental twist who does not acknowledge the benefit to the community from the destruction of these dangerous curs and does not also acknowledge that their destruction was accomplished in the most humane as well as the safest way. The Volunteers are merely carrying out their duty in seeing that the shooters come to no harm, and the shooters themselves are entitled to the grateful recognition of the community for turning out at five o'clock in the morning and undergoing an exceptionally unpleasant experience, because it was thought necessary that they should do so in the interest of the public at large, native as well as foreign.

THE FINANCES OF THE PROVINCE OF KIANGSU.

30th March.

Although there is a Treasurer at Nanking and another at Soochow, the financial questions which from time to time occur presenting difficulties have to be determined by the Viceroy and Governor. When recently a loan was contracted for by the Chinese Government with English and German merchants, the likin and salt duties of seven districts were set apart to pay for the loan. The seven districts are Kiukiang, Ningpo, and Eastern Chêkiang generally, Ichang salt and likin, Soochow and Shanghai likin, and last of all the likin and salt *gabelle* of Anhui and Hupeh. The Governor and Viceroy learn from Peking what they may and may not do. Recently they have in a joint memorial asked the Emperor to allow them to retain certain sums for the troops and other expenses to which the province is liable. The foreign loan caused a displacement of the funds in the hands of the Provincial Treasurers. The likin receipts had been applied to support the army. They can no longer be devoted to that use. The army must in some way still be supported and the Defence Board has an expenditure requiring money from some

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

other source. The petitioners ask that there may be a substitution of sums remaining after the recent reduction of army expenditure in the provinces. A certain sum results from the change of grain tribute to copper cash. There is also a certain sum called the balance remainder connected with weighing silver, and there are the subscriptions from purchasers of government scrip issued last year. These last are freewill offerings to the Government in its time of need, but six per cent interest was promised to the donors.

The total deficit in the provincial accounts caused by the Government loan in question is Tls. 1,930,000. This sum is made up of money formerly employed under the following items. Drilled troops at Nanking, Soochow, and other places in the province, local board expenses, naval expenditure for troops on the river, repayment of a loan contracted for by Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg and Co., with four loans contracted for by four nations. To enable the province to reimburse itself for this expenditure, the Viceroy and Governor state that Tls. 123,000 is to be paid to the province from the silk and cocoon taxes collected in western Chêkiang, including the prefectures of Hangchow, Hoochow, and Kashing. These taxes are levied expressly for Kiangsu. Another tax to be applied in the same way is the broker tax. The large broker firms pay for a Peking certificate authorising them to act as brokers. Small broker firms have no certificate: their trade is small. Just as in the Foreign Customs tariff there are duties as high as twelve taels on piece-goods and ten taels on good raw silk, while but one tael is charged on refuse, and three taels are paid on good cocoons and five per cent *ad valorem* on refuse and broken cocoons, so in the native system of duties there is a division between the good and the inferior kinds of silk and of cocoons. This accounts for the distinction between the kinds of silk which is preserved in the statement of the Viceroy and Governor recently sent to the Emperor, in regard to the amount they yield to the revenue. But while Tls. 123,000 are raised by these several imposts, there is still a deficiency of Tls. 1,800,000. This must be obtained if the troops are to be supported and the foreign loan repaid. They now therefore ask for Tls. 360,000 from the troops' allowances. They can afford it now because the expenditure is reduced by disbanding unnecessary men. In addition to this sum they say they will require Tls. 1,450,000. They ask therefore for authority to detain Tls. 1,810,000 in the subsidiary army amounts due from the provinces. With this aid they will be able to provide pay for the troops and discharge the quota due for the foreign loan. The likin and salt duties made over to the Foreign Customs are limited to Central China from Ningpo to Ichang. Kiangsu is to be recouped in its finances for this reduction by contributions from the undermentioned ten provinces:—Kiangsu, Kiangsi, Anhui, Chêkiang, Fukien, Hunan, Hupeh, Szechuan, Canton, and Honan. The burden of the foreign loan falls primarily on the central provinces which are the richest on account of rice cultivation. The outlying provinces Honan, Canton, and Fukien share the burden indirectly by contributing to the support of the military expenditure of Kiangsu, which is in regard to revenue the most important of the provinces. Kiangsu and Anhui are the granary of the empire: on them rests chiefly the responsibility of the payment for losses sustained in the war with Japan. The commerce of Kiangsu was so important that Japan yielded to the advice of foreign friends not to invade the central provinces. But the duty of meeting the liability of the indemnity devolves chiefly on these same provinces. The students of this part of China are also the most conspicuously successful in the literary examinations. Where trade prospers there are found the greatest number of learned men. Thus Chêkiang is eminent for silk manufacture and for the appearance of able scholars and administrators. Hunan is famous for its tea, and it has also given to the nation many able men. When local circumstances are favourable, wealth is accumulated. Wealth gives leisure and leisure makes scholars. Intelligence is the result of successful agricultural occupations. This is a principle that may be applied universally as may also the parallel statement that the useful arts promote intelligence. Eminent men are born in regions where agriculture and the useful arts are most industriously cultivated by the people.

THE REPORT OF THE CHINA ASSOCIATION FOR 1898.

31st March.

The value of an institution like the China Association is not to be judged solely by the work it actually and overtly accomplishes: it is of the greatest benefit that the authorities on the spot and at home should feel that there is an institution of the kind keeping a watch on what is going on and prepared to strengthen their hands with the force of a united and intelligent public opinion. The days when diplomacy worked within an impenetrable veil and the people had to accept without recourse whatever those in authority chose to settle for them, are past. Mr. Gladstone's principle, which was indeed also Lord Palmerston's, "Take the people into your confidence," is being accepted as not only a right principle, but good policy; and from an institution like the China Association the authorities learn the wishes and conclusions of the people.

We propose briefly to summarise what is itself a brief summary of the incessant work done by the Committee of the Shanghai Branch of the China Association in 1898. The Report begins by pointing out that a new era has commenced in China's history; it says "that China, in view of the obligations which she has now entered into with Western Powers, cannot long maintain her exclusive policy, must be evident to all; the problem now is how best to save China from herself, how to preserve her integrity, if that be possible, and how best to peacefully introduce the measures of reform which are necessary to that end." Unfortunately, this is only a counsel of perfection; the preservation of China's integrity is no longer possible, and ironical as it is, considering that there is no country more interested in the preservation of China's integrity than Great Britain, history will record that Lord Salisbury, by mistakes both of omission and commission, is largely responsible for the collapse of that integrity. After all, it is unnecessary to dwell on this point; nothing but the establishment of a protectorate by some Western Power, England or another, could have saved China from tumbling to pieces after the war with Japan exposed the utter rottenness of which all of us in our hearts knew the existence, and international jealousies would have prevented the establishment of such a protectorate if any one Power had had the courage to assume it. Nor does the West apparently produce nowadays the men capable of forming and carrying through such a conception. The partition of China has practically begun, and an endless and confused vista of troubles and quarrels lies before the partitioning Powers.

The Report goes on to record the seizure of Kiaochou by Germany and of the Liaotung Peninsula by Russia, and the lease of Weihaiwei by Great Britain as a very inadequate counterpoise. The successful claim of Great Britain to be allowed to continue the Northern Railway is noted, as well as the securing of a British Concession at Newchwang, and a considerable addition to Hongkong's territory on the mainland. The new ports that have been and are still to be opened are mentioned, though not exhaustively, and the Report says: "It may be that political, rather than commercial, reasons have influenced the opening of several of these ports, but if such be the case, the proof is only the greater of China's inability to withstand the Western pressure which is now being brought to bear upon her, and for which she has only to thank her own short-sighted policy in the past."

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

An important note follows on the use that has been made of the opening of new ports to serve the cupidity of native officials, to the enrichment of themselves and the detriment of the treaty rights of foreigners. Woosung is a glaring example of this scheme in active operation. The fact is, that the officials recognise that their country is falling to pieces and their opportunities for enriching themselves at the expense of the people they govern may be withdrawn at any moment, and they are devoting all their energies to making all the hay they can while the sun is still shining; considering what the majority—not by any means the whole body—of the officials are, this is only natural.

We welcome the remarks in the Report on the internal forces at work in China, and we only wish that our representatives at Peking had appreciated the facts on which these remarks are founded before the *coup d'état* of September last. The acquiescence of our representatives in that outrage on China is one of the most-to-be-regretted events in the history of the Far East in 1898. Mr. Dudgeon treats the subject so well that we cannot do better than reprint this paragraph:—

It is impossible to believe that the Emperor's now famous "Reform Edicts" were merely the outcome of the work of a small body of enthusiasts in Peking, and indeed there is ample evidence to show that they expressed feelings widely accepted by influential Chinese throughout the country—feelings of men who see that China is doomed, unless she sets her house in order, and adopts a line of policy more in consonance with the ideas of the Western nations with whom she is now so irrevocably connected. That the reformers moved too fast is on all sides admitted, but seeing that the movement was all in the direction of progress, and was aimed at the reform of corrupt and effete institutions, it cannot but be regretted that there was no controlling hand to guide and lead the reformers, by which means the catastrophe of September might possibly have been prevented. The downfall of the Emperor, the execution of the principal reformers, the banishment and degradation of others, the re-assumption of power by the Empress-Dowager, and the reactionary edicts which followed, are matters which cannot but be deplored by China's best well-wishers; we are told that the policy of the party now in power is one of moderate progress, but it must be confessed that, so far, the edicts of the Empress have shown little sign of any such policy; on the contrary, it is to be feared that the appointments which have been made to places of high office in Peking indicate the return to a policy both non-progressive and anti-foreign.

The menace to China herself involved in the concessions that have been acquired from her for the construction of railways and the exploitation of mines is pointed out in a long paragraph on pages 8 and 9 of this Report. Whether China understands the dangers she has incurred may well be doubted; meanwhile new conditions are coming which will seriously modify the situation, and it is not necessary now to dwell upon this paragraph. Another long paragraph is devoted to the opening of the inland waters of China to foreign craft: this has already been ably handled by Mr. Dudgeon in our columns, and we may pass on to the paragraph dealing with the farcical judgment of Tsai Taotai in the Bank of China case. The point is well made that what is really wanted is a complete reform of the Mixed Court administration here; "it is most earnestly to be desired that steps will be taken as soon as possible to compel the Chinese Government to carry out its promise, given in the Chefoo Convention twenty-three years ago, to the effect that, in view of the unsatisfactory working of the Mixed Courts, the foreign Representatives would be invited to 'at once (!) consider with the Tsungli Yamên the measures needed for the more effective administration of justice at the ports open to trade.'" Mr. Dudgeon puts a note of admiration after "at once;" but what is a delay of twenty-three years to a nation whose history goes back four thousand years?

The paragraph on Settlement Extension is well and carefully worded; this is a question which we hope Sir Claude Macdonald will be able to settle once for all during his coming visit to Nanking. We join fully in the very appreciative paragraph in which Lord Charles Beresford's recent visit to China is recorded; "the thanks of the whole British community in China are most heartily extended to his Lordship, not only for the work which he undertook, but more particularly for the thoroughness with which he accomplished it; moreover, that appreciation of his Lordship's work is not confined to his own nationals was markedly shown in the cosmopolitan nature of the gathering which entertained him here on the eve of his departure from China." We heartily congratulate Mr. Dudgeon on his Report and on the admirable supplement to it which he delivered at yesterday's meeting of the Association. A more complete and philosophical survey of the situation it would be difficult to make in the limits of a speech. He was justified in claiming that under his guidance and that of his predecessors persistent effort on the part of the China Association has been one of the forces at work in breaking down the barrier of Chinese exclusivism; while letting in the light which, it is to be feared, can do little more than make the decay of this great empire more plainly visible.

Clarke's World-famed Blood Mixture.—"The most searching Blood Cleanser that science and medical skill have brought to light." Sufferers from Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, Bad Legs, Skin and Blood Diseases, Pimples, and Sores of any kind are solicited to give it a trial to test its value. Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it. Sold everywhere at 2s. 9d. per bottle. Beware of worthless imitations and substitutes.

6 alt

THE DISASTER IN THE CHANNEL.

3rd April.

The Casquets, on which the *Stella* is reported lost, are a very dangerous group of rocks in the English Channel, about seven miles west of Alderney. There are, we believe, two lighthouses on them, but they have, nevertheless, been the cause of many wrecks, among them a 110-gun line-of-battle ship, the *Victory*, in 1744. They are, owing to the strength and uncertainty of the currents in their vicinity, a constant menace to vessels bound to or from the Channel Islands, or which, from fog or other causes, get out of their reckoning in passing up or down the Channel. The regular course for vessels navigating the Channel is considerably to the north of the Casquets, but it is not many years since one of the largest P. & O. steamers, outward-bound from Southampton, which had broken down, nearly drifted on to them. The steamer *Stella*, whose loss is reported by Reuter this morning, was one of the fast mail-steamers belonging to the London and South-Western Railway Company. She was a twin-screw boat, steaming fully twenty knots, and making the trip between Southampton and the Islands in four to five hours. As she was lost on Thursday afternoon, she must have been hanging about in the fog for some hours, and with the currents that run in that part of the Channel, it would have been almost impossible for the captain to know exactly his position, though as a rule these captains are able to put up a notice when they leave port of the time they will arrive at their destination, which is generally right within a few minutes. In the terrible story which the telegraph tells us in a few bald words, there is one bright patch. The discipline on board must have been such as we always expect it to be on British ships. To the first horror of striking was added the explosion of the boilers, and the *Stella*, we are told, sank ten minutes after touching the cruel rocks, but in those few minutes most of the women and children were got safely into the boats, only enough members of the crew to take charge of those boats being saved with them; and the eighty or more whom the inexorable sea claimed perished gallantly, for they had done what they could to save a man's first care, the women and children.

"For the Blood is the Life."—If the *blood* is laden with impurities it spreads disease as it circulates through the organs of the human body—Lungs, Heart, Stomach, Kidneys, Brain. Clarke's World-famed Blood Mixture is warranted to cleanse the blood from all impurities from whatever cause arising. For Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, Bad Legs, Skin and Blood Diseases, Pimples, and Sores of all kinds its effects are marvellous. Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it. Sold everywhere at 2s. 9d. Beware of worthless imitations and substitute.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

Outports.

ICHANG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

REBELLION AND ITS HORRORS.

Twelve men were marched through the streets on Tuesday to the prefect's *yamên* to be tried for rebellion. Amongst them were two lads of 15 years or so. Their presence excited much pity, as what could *they* understand of rebellion? A number of men and women hastened after the prisoners to the *yamên* to plead for the two lads and to give a guarantee for them. We hope they may be successful, but we much doubt it as the officials are most vigorous in the execution of every rebel, young or old. The last executed men have been allowed to lie on the execution ground till the dogs had eaten the flesh and picked the bones. I saw a thigh bone sticking out from a bundle of rags as I passed the place one day.

SPRING

has come and the people are going to the graves to worship. The weather is very genial although rainy occasionally. The last two days we have had a sand-storm; just as if a haze hung over the river. In the house the dust particles gather so thickly that one can write one's name on the top of tables. Owing to the late rains the river has begun to rise, and a large portion of the beach is now covered. The rise took the people who were living in mat huts on the river bank, quite unawares. In the morning their huts were surrounded and in some cases flooded. What a commotion then arose—a pulling down and hastily removing of their residences and belongings.

THE FOREIGN COMMUNITY.

Another burial took place on Friday in the foreign cemetery. The youngest child of Mr. and Mrs. Reden of the Swedish mission in Shasi had died of smallpox, and was brought up here to be buried.

There have been several arrivals and departures from our port during the last week. Mr. and Mrs. Hudson Taylor of the C. I. Mission arrived from the West, and left by the *Kuling* on Wednesday. Mr. Williams, Mr. Polhill-Turner, and party arrived from the coast and are proceeding westwards.

17th March.

MOKANSHAN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PROGRESS.

Already many have come themselves or written to friends to arrange for them. The rooms in Chinese houses are commanding high prices. Visitors will find it a pleasant time of the year to look over the place. The rest-house is soon to be finished and opened for the accommodation of those who come. Some of the house owners are insuring at very reasonable rates with well-known Shanghai agents. People who build anywhere in China have a sort of fellow-feeling but in the mountains experiences are specially interesting.

27th March.

"For the Blood is the Life"—Clark's World-famed Blood Mixture is warranted to cleanse the Blood from all impurities from whatever cause arising. For Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, Bad Legs, Skin and Blood Diseases, Pimples, and Sores of all kinds it is of its no marvellous. Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it. Sold everywhere at 2s. 9d. Beware of worthless imitations.

NGANLUFU, HUPEH.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE OFFICIAL WORLD.

The prefect P'êng *tajen* after holding office here for a year has just left for Wuchang to await another appointment. Sze *tajen*, a native of Kiangsu, who held the post for several years till replaced by P'êng has returned to his old post. It is said that P'êng *tajen's* removal is due to his being in disgrace with the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung. In the summer P'êng wrote a letter to a Censor at Peking pointing out some of the Viceroy's shortcomings and urging the Censor to denounce him to the Throne. Unfortunately for P'êng this letter was shown to the Viceroy with the foregoing result. P'êng is a native of Hunan and a few years ago had control of the Hupeh *likin*. Two years since he was engaged in repairing the breaches made in the river embankment at Lopaowan, in the Nganlu prefecture. During these operations the then district magistrate of this city crossed him in some way or other and report says that P'êng used money very lavishly to get appointed prefect of Nganlu that he might get the magistrate dismissed. Soon after taking office an opportunity occurred and this official was dismissed in disgrace, through the representations of the prefect. The magistrate in his turn used money in bribing the provincial authorities and was appointed to Kianglin, in which Shasi is situated, and took over the seals of office two days before the riot occurred there last spring. Such are the wheels within wheels in Chinese official life

THE PROTECTION OF MISSIONS.

Proclamations have been posted throughout the district relating to missionaries and mission work, and the district magistrate has been distributing a small book relating to the same thing to the principal gentry here. It contains recommendations by the Tsungli Yamên for selecting gentry living in the vicinity of mission chapels, and for appointing them to look after the chapels to prevent riots and to settle disputes between native converts and their unconverted neighbours. The memorial refers to the fact that mission converts and the people are alway shaving disputes, and that riots and disturbances are continually occurring; hence after most careful deliberation, they advise three things for dealing with such cases:—

1.—"For the complete protection of chapels:—In all places where chapels are, establish a *Paochia Chü* (保甲局), and appoint two or three gentry of position and long-standing influence to be in charge. A guard of soldiers should be placed there chosen from the people living in the vicinity of the chapels, and these should patrol the streets and guard them.

"In case of trouble those in charge of the *Paochia Chü* should use their utmost endeavours to settle it by inviting both parties to the *Paochia Chü* and in other ways. Whenever Missionaries go on journeys these soldiers should form an escort. The local officials must see the heads of the *Chü* whenever they wish and must treat them with respect; they must be united as one so that they all might understand the causes and circumstances of all disputes.

2.—"They must exert themselves in exhorting and guiding the people:—When the *Paochia Chü* is established and the heads appointed they should continually relate to the people the particulars of mission cases in the past and show how the offenders were punished so that they in their turn might tell others, and then all living in remote villages and among the hills will know. This plan is infinitely better than having proclamations issued by the mandarins

3.—"For giving rewards and punishments with justice:—The heads of the *Chü* should be held responsible for protecting mission chapels and for preserving the peace. A certain time should be fixed for giving rewards and meting out punishment that others might be influenced to do good. The rule should be that the heads of the *Chü* should have their taxes remitted for three years. Should there be no trouble or disturbance during their term of office merit should be awarded them in the ordinary way. Or if when a disturbance suddenly takes place and assumes large dimensions they are able ■ put it down and sweep clean all the trouble, degrees of extraordinary merit should be awarded them."

The book then goes on say that in former years no reports as to where mission chapels had been established existed. But that in the seventeenth year of Kuang Hsü numerous riots occurred in the Yangtze Valley. The Tsungli Yamên therefore issued instructions to the provincial authorities to make quarterly returns of the places where mission chapels had been established so that the Yamên might possess full and complete information. The Imperial sanction to the above suggestions was given on the 14th of September 1898, and in giving his assent his Majesty said: "They are all most important."

Then follows a reference to a book by Viceroy Chang Chih-tung the *Ch'uen-Hsio-P'ien* (勸學篇) which, among other things, discusses very clearly "the causes of disputes between the people and mission converts" and which gives useful instructions to the ignorant populace and, in the opinion of the Tsungli Yamên, "if all the provincial and local officials and the gentry fully understood them they would be able to instruct all and thus all cause of trouble would be removed." A clause was subsequently added which received the Imperial sanction to the effect that, wherever mission disturbances took place, those responsible should be severely punished, and whenever a local official did not exert himself to the utmost to protect mission chapels he should be dealt with according to the old regulations. Even when he is not directly responsible although allowed to retain his post he should be degraded two steps.

It is said that the district magistrate intends shortly to establish a *Paochia Chü* in this city for the above purposes, which, however, is very doubtful.

This may be an honest attempt on the part of the Tsungli Yamên to cope with what has become a very serious problem; but its realisation will be a matter of great difficulty. That converts to Christianity often suffer wrong on account of their Christianity is only too true, but it is equally true that the unconverted often suffer greater wrong from the large and increasing number of natives who seek to become connected with the Christian Church, not because they have any interest in Christianity, but because they will be able to act in ■ high-handed manner to outsiders, under cover of the name of the Church.

1st March.

PEKING.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ITALIAN AFFAIRS

are still absorbing the attention of diplomatists, correspondents, and report manufacturers. An ancient Chinese *literatus* came to inform me that "the Italian Ambassador is going home at once to fetch gunboats and commence war!" Russia is believed to have been exhibiting "two faces under one hat," by first assenting to the Italian occupation of Saumên and then telling the sages of the Tsungli Yamên: "This demand is utterly unreasonable and it is your duty to resist it." The truth seems to be just this; the European Powers all assented to the forward movement of Italy, and the British Minister has received explicit instructions to act as mediator between her and China. Therefore we may expect to see the matter

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

speedily arranged. All talk of war is simply nonsense. Italy will gain Sammên Bay and thereby bring in one more "eagle" to wait eagerly for the dissolution of the "Sick Man of the Far East." Whether it is likely that Italy will gain anything whatever by this move is extremely doubtful, but it may be necessary to direct popular attention away from the wretched condition of home affairs, and it may be the better part of valour to leave Abyssinia to be cared for by England.

THE MUTUAL DISCOURTESIES.

One thing is certain—both parties were discourteous at the commencement of the negotiations, the "civilised" Power being the greater as well as the first offender, but, as usual, only the weaker Power will suffer for the transgression of etiquette. There is no sound reason for thinking that any good will come out of the action of Italy and the European Powers. Those who direct the policy of Western nations know comparatively little about China, as the history of the last few years amply proves. In any case some of us still hold on to the old maxim "honesty is the best policy," and it is not honest for the powerful nations of the West to wantonly seize on the territory of a feeble and distracted government. It is never wise to do wrong.

WANG CHAO,

one of the friends of the Reformers, is said to be slowly sinking from consumption. He was a good scholar, pro-British, eager for the progress of his countrymen, and thoroughly loyal to the Emperor. Nothing was proved against him, in fact he had no trial, but was cashiered on mere suspicion. Then seeing the ferocity of the Manchu party he accepted the advice of friends, and fled from Peking to Japan. His enemies at once said: "Ah! now we know he was seditious, or why should he run away?" This furnished a fine excuse for confiscating his property and leaving him to the charity of another people and to the end wearing away of his life amid strangers. Such has often been the lot of patriots. To her honour, Japan has not allowed him or his friends to suffer want.

A WORD TO THE REFORMERS.

By the way, it is stated on good authority that Kang Yü-wei has grown tired of living where he and his friends have to exercise constant care to preserve his life, so he has decided to visit the United States. If he goes, it is to be hoped that he and his companions will express themselves with a little more regard for the peace and best interests of the Emperor and the friends of progress in China than they have done since they have been in Japan. Railing seldom does good.

THE EMPEROR.

A Manchu who has very intimate relations among the "Old Lady's Party" told me that the health of the Emperor is about as it was when Dr. Dethière last saw him. Though far from strong he walks out and finds considerable enjoyment in feeding the pigeons—who are the only visitors allowed to see the "solitary man," the lawful ruler of three or four hundred millions of people. Pigeons have sometimes proved to be very useful birds!

A RAILWAY REPORT.

The ancient report that the Government will spend no more money on railways, but leave them to be constructed by those who want them, whether Chinese or foreigners, has been going round again, and furnishes a fair specimen of the rumours daily placed on the Peking market. We have to do without "Bunders" here and so are entitled to some consideration.

A LEGATION DANCE.

What the irreverent call a "hop" took place at the British Legation on the 15th inst. The beauty and fashion of Peking were present in great force and, for a while, dull care was driven far away, perhaps to Shanghai. The only mistake in a most exquisite programme was the non-invitation of ——, who stayed at home, read the *Meditations of Marcus Aurelius Antoninus*, and reflected that "since grumbling is essential to the complete happiness of mankind, those who assist in its production are entitled to the sincerest gratitude."

THE GOVERNOR OF SHANTUNG,

who was recently eulogised in your columns, has been dismissed. The only real fault proved against him was the possession of too much money. It is supposed that he requires a little leisure in order to be able to discover where some of his wealth would be likely to "do the most good," also to reflect on the uncertainties of (official) life—under petticoat government. Wherefore he has obtained it. Why not?

THE ITALIAN MINISTER'S RECALL.

The hearts of the orthodox in Peking have been greatly cheered by the recall of the Italian Minister for the grievous sin of "exceeding his instructions" (a very uncommon offence in the Legations in this city). It is said that he had no authority to present an ultimatum to that august and sensitive body, the Tsungli Yamên, nor was he instructed to ransack K'ang Hsi's Dictionary for the most grateful and comforting expressions in which to set forth the cravings of King Humbert for a naval, military, civil, and popular sanitarium at Sammôn Bay. If he had weighed his words this would not have happened—and the British Minister would have had more time in which to consult the Shanghai papers in regards to the wisest methods for extending and consolidating British interests in China; also, the Tsungli Yamên would not have been in position to rejoice unduly over the sending home of an undiplomatic diplomat. Still, the best of us make mistakes, sometimes, and life might be too dull if we did not.

A DIFFERENCE.

A friend of a friend of mine, who was discussing the Italian question with an astute German, felt ■ laid upon him to declare "the Italians were utterly unreasonable in their action, *they did not even wait for a missionary to be killed* before demanding a port!" Of course, I thought as much before, but I did not say it because Sammên Bay is in the south of China while Kiaochou is in the north, and distance makes all the difference. Anyone but an American could have seen this with the "naked eye."

M. A.

20th March.

THE ITALIAN DEMAND FOR SANMÊN BAY

is being discussed quietly by the diplomats and probably will soon be settled. Then the critics of the Orient and Occident will commence to tell us how it ought to have been done, and, of course, we shall have to be grateful for the illumination poured upon us. Meanwhile

THE REPORT THAT WAR IS INEVITABLE

is believed by many of the Chinese, and the extraordinary noise made by the military powder-wasters yesterday morning served to aid credulity and generate wilder rumours. Said an antique wiseacre to me: "We are going to fight. The European nations have decided to allow Italy to have Sammên. They think it will be better to 'cut up' China at once and save further delays and vexations. So, of course, we must prepare to resist them."

THE YELLOW RIVER.

H. E. Li Hung-chang is expected here in about a week. He has sent in a report, in which a "permanent control plan" and a "temporary relief plan" are embodied. The "thorough" scheme is estimated to cost 40,000,000 taels and the "patch and patch again" method less than half that sum. This second plan has antiquity on its side, and would fill the mouths and pockets of the "River Works'" parasites—which last is by no means the least consideration.

AN IMPOSSIBLE COMMITTEE.

The Empress Dowager has appointed a "blessed committee" to sit on the whole matter. The members of the Grand Council, the Grand Secretaries, the chief officials of the Six Boards, the Hanlin Academy, the National Academy, the Imperial Supervisorate of Instruction, the Censorate,—and almost all the "Boards" and sticks to be found in Peking are to take part in this grand attack on the poor Yellow River. If all of the said luminaries should attend the sitting, there will be

OVER 200 IMAGES

present! What a committee! And—what a chance for the photographer! One is reminded of the inscription on Trajan's famous bridge: "What cannot the might of the *Romans* subdue? Behold under their yoke the wild rushing Danube!" Something will be done now. What? Watch the mountain to look for a mouse.

THE SUFFERINGS OF THE PEOPLE.

Let us remember, however, that while it may be 'sport' for foreigners to laugh at this elephantine committee, it may be misery and starvation to tens of thousands of the poor people of Shantung.

FOREIGN INTERFERENCE.

Is it not about time to recall the maxim laid down by Sir Thomas Wade in 1873: "When a nation is rushing or drifting to self-destruction, other nations are justified in interfering"? It is said that the missionaries who are toiling so earnestly to relieve the sufferers from the last outbreak of the Yellow River, sent a petition to the Powers urging the necessity of employing sound methods in future "River Conservation Works," but their appeal is (said to be) safely pigeon-holed. Great efforts have been made to secure concessions of all sorts chiefly for the benefit of foreigners, cannot something equally vigorous be done for the benefit of the Chinese?

THE DEATH OF MRS. HOUSTON.

Since I wrote last, one of the most estimable ladies of our community has passed peacefully to her rest. Mrs. Houston bore her prolonged illness with all the brave resignation and gentleness so conspicuous in her character. Her brief married life was "a calm, sweet song," and proved most convincingly that, with true hearts, marriage can never be a failure, in spite of the empty platitudes of our modern pessimists.

THE COMING REVIEW.

The report that a grand review is to be held of all, or of most of, the troops in North China is confirmed. We may expect therefore, that in June some 200,000 "braves" will assemble in the South Hunting Park to "beat the air"—and any foreigners who may happen to make their acquaintance. It should be noted that among these rowdies will be at least 10,000 of Tung Fu-hsiang's Kansu men—who "raised Cain" when they visited Peking last year. Note, too, that they will be *within four miles of this city*,—and that the British and American Legation guards are gone away. I detest alarmist reports, but the whole condition of Government affairs here is unsatisfactory. A good many screws are loose, and an unusual proportion of ignorant and reckless men are in office. Prudence and vigilance are specially required, and "prevention is better than cure."

YAO PING-JEN,

Literary Chancellor of Shantung, has been "dismissed for ever"—ostensibly for "violation of the ancient rules of his office," but really for official corruption of a serious type. His successor is a Manchu—Jung Ch'ing, and in the face of recent statements, we assert that a large majority of the appointments to high positions since the *coup d' état* have been given to Manchus. This does

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

not contribute to the safety of the Government, though that is doubtless one of the motives impelling the Empress Dowager to such partiality.

GENERAL PARSONS.

the Chief of the Engineers engaged on the plans for the construction of the Hankow-Canton Railway, has been a guest at the U. S. Legation. General Parsons and several members of his family have been busy "doing Peking"—and possibly being *done* by the admiring natives. If he would only stay here and put our detestable streets into good shape, he would be sure of a glorious immortality; but he feels sure on that score already, and so we shall have to continue alternately taking mud-baths and extra pecks of dust-with ejaculatory variations on the fourth letter of the Alphabet. "All of which is very sad"—especially the dust.

M. A.

28th March.

PEKING NOTES.

(FROM OUR NATIVE CORRESPONDENT.)

The preparations begun recently by the Imperial Household Department for a lengthened stay of the Empress Dowager at Eho Park during the warm weather, in regard to which extra precautions were to have been taken to guard the Empress Dowager against treachery or a supposed *coup d'état* by the Emperor's friends, in the shape of a double line of fortified guard-houses and two extra regiments of the Imperial guards, have been suddenly stopped by the Empress Dowager's express commands. It seems that her Ministers used every argument to deter the Empress Dowager from going to Eho Park—her favourite residence—this year on the ground that she would be safer in Peking against any attack, it being feared that an attempt at assassination would be made during some of her journeyings to and from Eho Park and the "Forbidden City." But the Empress Dowager refused to listen to her Ministers' exhortations. On the contrary, the Imperial Household Department was commanded to hasten the preparations for her reception, But now, at the reiterated advice of her nephew, the Generalissimo and Grand Secretary Jung Lu, orders have been sent countermanding the preparations, and an edict has been given out saying that the Empress Dowager has "decided to stay at Peking during the coming summer and that she will not go to Eho Park as at first stated." People are wondering what it was that made the Empress Dowager change her mind. One story is that when it was found the Empress Dowager neither feared assassination nor a *coup d'état*, her Ministers decided to get the one man whom she generally listened to, her nephew Jung Lu, to make one last attempt to stop the proposed departure. Jung Lu undertook the task and, knowing his Aunt's fear of the Russians, used their name to prevent her departure. Now that the Empress Dowager holds the reins of government, her sojourn at Eho Park would compel all the Presidents, Vice Presidents, and secretarial staff of the Six Boards and Nine Ministries to move bag and baggage and live near the Park.

Never Despair of being able to overcome the troubles of this world, for they will disappear like dew before the sun if we only look them squarely in the face. If you are afflicted with any bodily disease, give Holloway's Pills and Ointment a trial; they will afford speedy relief, and in time effect a cure. They are the best known remedies for all complaints. During the summer months many people are afflicted with bowel and liver disorders, diarrhœa, dysentery, colic, low fevers, etc. These remedies are unequalled in such cases, and should therefore be the *Vade Mecum* of all who value sound health. They may be procured from all chemists and medicine vendors.

16oc-99 234 17th Oct., 1898.

TIENTSIN.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

A VERY PRETTY QUARREL

is the event of the week, to wit, one between the Steamship Companies acting in combination and the shippers. On Friday last the former issued the following notice to shippers:—

"Under instructions from Head Offices, we beg to intimate that, on and after the 1st proximo, export cargo will have to be sent alongside steamers by shippers at their own risk and expense.

"Measurements of cargo will be taken on the Bund at time of shipment, on application.

"Coast Bills of Lading will be issued subject to production of and conditions of mates' receipts.

"Indo-China Steam Nav. Co., Ld.
"China Merchants' Steam Nav. Co., Ld.
"China Navigation Co., Ld."

Needless to say such a departure from long-established custom aroused a fierce opposition. The Express Wag was the first in the front of the fight, he next day issued the following "Notice to Consignees":—

"Acting under instructions from our Head Office, we hereby give Notice that from the 1st prox. all import cargo will be chucked overboard outside the Bar and consignees must make their own arrangements with divers and fishermen for its further delivery. Rates remain unaltered for the present but it is anticipated that they will be raised considerably in the near future.

"THE UNITED STEAM SHIP CO., LD."

This excellent bit of fooling has a serious side, under the mask of satire it shows that the shippers deem the new departure a reduction to the absurd. In truth, while the proposed new methods of shipping export cargo are in themselves strongly objected to, there can be no doubt that the way in which they have been promulgated has not only given the deepest offence, but inflicted real hardship. The steamer companies sent out their *firman* as if they were the Great Bashaw himself, and as if all the shippers had to do was to accept it as if they were the slaves of His Sublimity. The merchants object to this treatment, many of them have running contracts on hand and a sudden change of this description, involving as it does both annoyance and loss, is not to be endured without a vigorous kick against the pricks. This kick took the form of an emergency

MEETING OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

on Monday, the 27th instant. Every hong in Tientsin which does an export business was represented, and between thirty-five and forty merchants were present. The proceedings were marked with perfect unanimity and enthusiasm to say nothing of *sæva indignatio*. The first resolution asked the Companies to cancel unconditionally the notice of March the 24th. Special mention was made of the injustice of so short a notice, involving a considerable rise in freight in the middle of current contracts; freight were raised last year by the Companies ostensibly to meet the great expenses of the Peiho navigation.

The second resolution was minatory. It stated that unless the notice be withdrawn the supporters of the resolution would bind themselves (1) to ship no more by the Steamer Companies; (2) To withdraw their support from the P. and O., the O.S.S., and the Glens; (3) To encourage a new line of steamers to the Port.

An amendment advising a less drastic method of resistance, and commending a spirit of conciliation did not find a seconder.

The agent of one of the Companies suggested a postponement of action till they could communicate with the Head Offices. The meeting agreed on condition that the action proposed in the Companies' notice was also postponed for fifteen days. This was accepted. Before separating the Chamber also passed a resolution authorising its officers to approach the Viceroy on the

CASH QUESTION.

The suspicion is growing that the rapid and excessive appreciation in cash is due to certain occult tampering with the coinage rather than to the depreciation of silver by natural causes. Last week the unfortunate Mexican made another plunge downward in its career towards the vanishing point: it is now worth 790 large cash—an enormous drop from the normal 1,050 or 1,060.

THE PEIHO

is misrepresented and indeed almost libelled by certain statements in the Shanghai Press. It is still bad enough, but it is distinctly and markedly improving and that, too, at a season of the year when it is usually on the down grade. Yesterday for the first time in two (?) years, a wooden lighter drawing more than nine feet reached the Bund without difficulty. This is a *fact* that is worth ten bushels of *speculative opinion*. The Bar indeed has shown up very poorly during March, but its vagaries are not to be confounded with the state of the river. Of course, the two hang together as parts of the same hydraulic question: we have a local saw "good river bad bar: bad river good bar," the reason of which is obvious enough.

THE NEW TAOTAI.

It is now given out that Huang Fa-nung is to be the Customs Taotai after Li Mung-ahô vacates office, which he will do when the business of the Japanese Concession is an accomplished fact. Huang *tajên* has been for many years the Director of the China Merchants' Co. in Tientsin; he is a man of very considerable ability; quite conversant with business, foreigners, and foreign affairs. His Honour is a regular Son of Anak in *physique*, illustrating attitude, amplitude, longitude, and latitude. His presence at a function used to dwarf even the fine figure of H.E. Li Hung-chang. He is truly a man of weight and it is devoutly to be hoped he will sit on no one.

GENERAL AND PERSONAL.

Bishop Scott held a Confirmation in All Saints Church on Thursday last, where five young ladies and one gentleman were received into Church membership.

LI HUNG-CHANG

is reported to be coming Tientsin-wards, *viâ* the Grand Canal. The constancy of the great Satrap's name in everybody's mouth and the interest shown in his movements warrant the belief that we have not yet heard the last of him as a factor in Chinese policy.

Prince Dolgorouki of the Imperial Russian Navy has been here on a visit. He visited and minutely examined some of the educational establishments in the Port, notably the Naval College and the Russian School. He is now going Japan-wards with similar intent.

Lady Macdonald passed through Tientsin on Monday. She joins Sir Claude in Shanghai and accompanies him home. The children remain at the Legation under charge of their aunt and will spend the summer at Peitaiho.

29th March.

"The Health and Vigour of an individual depend upon the quantity and quality of the blood. When the tissues have been at work, there are thrown into the blood waste products, and if these be not eliminated but (through any cause) detained in the blood they influence nutrition and function and finally produce organic disease."—*The Humanitarian*. In cases of Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, Bad Legs, Skin and Blood Diseases, Pimples and Sores of all kinds, the effects of Clarke's Blood Mixture are marvellous Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it. Clarke's Blood Mixture is sold everywhere, at 2s. 9d. per bottle. Beware of worthless imitations and substituted

3 alt

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

WÊNCHOW.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ANTI-FOREIGN RUMOURS.

The country round about here has been considerably disturbed the last week or so by rumours of a conspiracy against foreigners and native Christians. The home of the rumours, and where they have caused most alarm, is in the Yôteing *hsien*, and there numerous native families have removed to places of safety pending the attack. Fortunately the officials have been vigilant, and seven prisoners are now in the city magistrate's *yamên* here awaiting sentence. One of them is a Taoist priest and we hear that he acknowledges the aim of his party to be the destruction of foreign buildings, especially places of worship.

NATIVE CHRISTIANS SUFFERING.

Simultaneously a number of these in the Nanchi district have been undergoing considerable persecution, and two native preachers who went as peacemakers were seriously beaten, an attempt was made to drown one of them, and both had to be brought into hospital. The general report in that neighbourhood is that the Empress Dowager has determined to expel the foreigners, has already got rid of the Emperor, Kang Yü-wei, and Li Hung-chang, that English influence now is of no account whatever, and that the officials would hail with pleasure a united attempt to drive out the foreigner. Hence these tears!

THE NEW CUSTOM HOUSE

is commencing in real earnest. The old place has been pulled down and carried off, the site cleared and raised well above the highest recorded tide, and now Mr. Godsil is here making arrangements for the immediate commencement of the new buildings which are likely to be a credit to the service and an ornament to the town. The staff is at present housed in a couple of fish shops opposite to the old office. Fortunately the recent fire cleared off old buildings so that these shops are almost new; but while chloride of lime has a powerful odour, fish beats it.

THE FIRST BICYCLE.

Mr. Godsil has introduced the bicycle to Wênchow. It has never been seen here before. If some one else will now kindly introduce one road long enough for a twenty minutes' spin he will be a benefactor to this daily "out at the East and in at the South gate" community.

H. B. M.'s CONSUL RETIRING.

Next steamer we are to lose our esteemed Consul, Mr. Ayrton, and his family, who leave for England by the German mail. Mr. Ayrton has been in China thirty years and now retires from active service. His numerous friends will heartily wish him a pleasant voyage to England, and many years of happiness and usefulness there.

24th March.

LONDON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

AFFAIRS IN FRANCE.

Within a week President Faure is dead and buried and President Loubet reigns in his place. France, and more wonderful to say Paris, remains calm. No barricades, no cavalry charges, no whiff of grapeshot, no Communard petroleum. The French Constitution at an unexpected crisis has worked admirably. The suddenness of M. Faure's death was in a considerable measure the determining factor in causing disappointment of the would-be disturbers of the public peace. Neither the Patriotic League nor the Pretenders, Orleanist and Bonapartist, were prepared sufficiently to venture upon any decisive declaration of treason. M. Loubet, the President of the Conservative Senate, succeeds to the Presidency of the State untrammelled by official action in the past regarding the Dreyfus affair and supported in taking an impartial line by his former colleagues of the Upper House. There is

A STRIKING ANALOGY

between his position and character and those of the new Leader of the Liberal Party in our House of Commons. Both are eminently respectable men, with a reputation for genial good sense and for the capacity to rise to the occasion when called upon. To come so well out of the crisis is distinctly to the credit of the French Nation. Men think now the Good Ship will weather the storm after all. As for Dreyfus, the new President will no doubt strive to let the affair sink gradually into the background, and such names as Henri, Esterhazy, and Beaurepaire will only be remembered as objects of the contempt excited by the infamous business. If Justice takes its course, the unhappy prisoner will be released, but in such a way as not to wound too deeply the *amour propre* of the army.

THE DISENTOMBING OF THE MAHDI.

What has become of the Mahdi's remains has been the chief question agitating the House of Commons this week. Mr. C. P. Scott, one of the proprietors and editor of the *Manchester Guardian* has been diligently pumping Mr. Brodrick, the new Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, as to the truth of the rumours that the body of Mahomed's successor was thrown by the Sirdar's orders into the Nile when the tomb at Omdurman was desecrated. Mr. Brodrick was obliged to admit the fact and ■ state that the Government had sent out to Lord Cromer for a full official report on the matter. Lord Cromer has thrown his ægis over the Sirdar whose action he justifies on the score of religious expediency, the idea being that such an act of profanation would effectually extinguish in the native mind any pretence the Mahdi may have made to semi-divinity. However, the Government has been placed in an awkward position, for many of its own supporters have expressed strong disgust at what they term an indecent piece of revenge not unlike the disentombing of Oliver Cromwell's body and hanging it at Tyburn. It is well-known at the clubs as a matter fact that if the Mahdi's corpse was thrown into the Nile, its scattered limbs have become the treasured relics of several officers and others present at the time. The skull, it is said, is in possession of Major Gordon, the Khartoum Hero's nephew who was the first to catch sight, from a gunboat, of the city where his uncle fell. One of the correspondents who accompanied the expedition would not readily part with a finger he possesses of the false Prophet. Under the circumstances it is difficult to see how the dishonoured bones are to be got together again and reinterred to satisfy the scruples of the non-belligerent critics.

A NEW DEPARTURE.

Oxford men may well open their eyes when they see that a Labour College has been opened at their Alma Mater. The time is full of changes, we know, but what do things portend when such close preserves as our Ancient Universities are invaded by "unknown quantities"? The Ruskin Hall, which was opened this week in St. Giles' at Oxford ■ an altogether novel institution. A pretty house, known to Mr. Ruskin in his Oxford days, has been taken to shelter students of the working classes, and others whose circumstances have hitherto denied them the privilege, so that they may pursue courses of reading and study under direction and supervision, and enjoy at the same time the intellectual atmosphere of the ancient University. The intention was made widely known to the labour organisations throughout the country, such as trade union branches, co-operative societies and the like with the result that the idea of a labour college has "caught on." Some twenty-five students have already taken up their abode in Ruskin Hall and a correspondence band of members scattered all over the country has received in a short time hundreds of adherents. Mr. Walter Vrooman, the originator and founder of the Hall, comes of a distinguished American family, of New York, Dutch, and English Quaker strain. He has devoted his means and energy wholly to the execution of the scheme of the college which he determined to carry out at the headquarters of the old learning. There is no official connection with Oxford University but several of the professors are giving the scheme their sympathy and help and it would not be surprising if the Hall should be the forerunner of colleges as distinctive as Keble and Mansfield at Oxford and Selwyn and the Women's Colleges at Cambridge.

THE ENGAGEMENT

of Lord Rosebery's second daughter, Lady Peggy Primrose, to the Earl of Crewe which is announced, has been thought probable for some time. Lady Peggy who has not long played the *rôle* of a charming *débutante* is some twenty-two years younger than the successful suitor to her hand, but the Earl is said to possess many personal qualities which render the difference of age immaterial. He is son of Monckton Milnes, Lord Houghton, the *littérateur* whose name is inseparably associated with that of Keats and the table talk of the great literary gossips of the middle of the century. Lord Crewe was probably Lord Rosebery's nominee to the Lord Lieutenancy of Ireland when Mr. Gladstone formed his administration in 1892. He was a Lord-in-waiting to the Queen in 1886, and his services to the Liberal party as one of the small and faithful band of the Opposition Lords was rewarded in 1885 when he became first Earl of Crewe. His place in Cheshire is a beautiful one, though the surrounding scenery is poor. Lord Crewe has been a widower since 1887. He was married in 1880 to Sybil, daughter of Sir F. Graham, of Netherby, granddaughter of the Duke of Somerset.

More than a touch of Mark Twain's old humour comes out in an article which he contributes to the new Parliamentary social newspaper started by a member of the Bussy family under the title of *Lords and Commons*. Mark is spending his declining days in Vienna and he describes in his raciest style Parliamentary government as it exists in Austria. He thinks it is reduced to a farce by an almost innumerable number of franchises. How the machine can work at all is a wonder and nothing but a complete break-down can be expected with the passing away of the aged Emperor. Under all the vicissitudes of fortune Mark Twain's fortitude is comparable with that of Tom Hood and, in many respects, is not unlike that of the Master of Abbotsford.

24th February.

NOTWITHSTANDING the many wonderful developments of science, no rival has yet been found to take the place of Holloway's Pills and Ointment as reliable and speedy cures for the various diseases with which we are all liable to be afflicted. The Ointment is universally acknowledged to be a certain remedy for sore throat, bronchitis, coughs, colds, glandular swellings, gout, rheumatism, and all skin diseases. The Pills have justly earned a world-wide reputation for all female complaints; for infantile disorders they are invaluable, and they are an unfailing remedy for all disorders affecting the liver and stomach. It would be difficult indeed, to name a complaint for which both the Pills and Ointment are not beneficial. Thousands of people in all parts of the world can testify to their merits. They are suitable for any climate or season of the year.

16oc-99 234 17th Oct., 1898.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

Meetings.

THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At a meeting of the Council held in the Board Room on Wednesday, the 22nd of March 1899, there were present Messrs. F. Anderson, Acting Chairman, E. A. Hewett, R. Inglis, H. R. Kinnear, D. M. Moses, J. Prentice, M. Rohde, E. B. Skottowe, the Secretary, and the Assistant Secretary.

The usual formal business is transacted.

Departmental Reports.—The following are submitted and ordered for publication:—

ABSTRACT OF ENGINEER'S REPORT FOR FEBRUARY.

Work is in hand in connection with the following:—

BUILDINGS.—*Drill Hall and Foreign Markets.*—Erecting Drill Hall and Foreign Markets on Lot 1305 B.C.

Municipal Gaol.—Adapting the portions of H.B.M. Gaol leased by the Council for use as a Municipal Gaol.

Residences for Captain and Deputy Superintendent of Police.—Erecting residences for Captain and Deputy Superintendent of Police on Cadastral Lot 170 Hankow Road.

Victoria Nursing Institute.—The site for the Institute in Rifle Range Road is being raised.

Public Abattoirs.—Building quarters for the Assistant Inspector of Markets above the offices at the Slaughter House.

Electric Lighting Station.—Erecting a platform for switchboard and indicators in the Engine House.

BRIDGES.—*Soochow Creek.*—Erecting new hardwood bridges at Chapoo and Thibet Roads.

Rifle Range.—Levelling and rolling for drill purposes.

GARBAGE DISPOSAL.—Erecting a garbage jetty on the Soochow Creek, adjoining the Thibet Road bridge.

PUBLIC LIGHTING.—*Gas.*—During the month 72 public gas lamps were reported as being out or dim, 49 glasses to same dirty, and 7 glasses broken.

Electric Light.—33 Electric lamps have been reported during the month as being out for all or portion of the night.

GENERAL.—During the month 488 tons of of stone were received from the Quarry and 2,121 tons were used for various purposes.

2,943 pieces of concrete ware were made at the Council's Depôt.

5 Applications for Building Permits, relating to 78 houses, have been received.

The average daily number of labourers employed during the month exclusive of Contract work was 867.

CHARLES MAYNE,
Engineer and Surveyor.

WEEKLY POLICE REPORT.

Return of apprehensions, etc., made by the Police during the week ending 18th March, 1899:—

Offences.	No. of apprehensions.
Breach of Municipal Regulations	78
Cruelty to Animals	1
Forgery	2
Furious Riding and/or Driving	17
Gambling	3
Larceny from Persons	1
" " Dwellings, etc.	77
Miscellaneous Cases	424
Riesha Licenses suspended	576
" " confiscated	1
Wheelbarrow " suspended	54
Hand Cart " "	2
Beggars, Hawkers, and Ragpickers	377
Total number of persons coming under the notice of Police	1,613
Chinese dead bodies found in streets	2
Stray dogs captured	145

PIERRE B. PATTISSON,
Captain-Superintendent of Police.

Stray Dogs.—Letter from the Major Commanding, S.V.C., is read, reporting the number of stray dogs shot by the members of the corps on the 21st and 22nd instant (70). It is decided to request him to issue orders that this duty be continued, in his discretion, say on two days a week until further notice.

Volunteers.—The following staff movements are noted:—

Captain Adamson "C" Co., resigns.

Lieutenant Woodward "C" Co., resigns.

The Major Commanding S.V.C. reports, that the members of "C" Company having fallen to a very low figure the Company is being disbanded its members in many instances joining other units. Official authority is given for the disbanding of the Company by standing order.

Meat Supply.—The Council is informed that the Native Butchers have agreed to the following prices for meat:—

Soup beef	at	10	Cents	per 2	lb.
Beef steak	"	12	"	" 1	"
Roast beef	"	12	"	" 1	"
Mutton chop	"	16	"	" 1	"
Leg of mutton	"	16	"	" 1	"
Lamb chop	"	16	"	" 1	"
Leg of lamb	"	16	"	" 1	"
Veal chop	" 15 to	18	"	" 1	"
Leg of veal	" 16 to	18	"	" 1	"
Fresh pork	"	20	"	" 1	"
Shoulder of mutton, lamb or veal	" 12 &	13	"	" 1	"
Corned beef	"	13	"	" 1	"
Corned pork	"	25	"	" 1	"
Corned ox-tongue	"	50	"	each.	
Fresh ox-tongue	"	45	"	"	
Fresh ox-tail	" 15 to	20	"	"	
Sheep's head and feet	"	15	"	"	
Sheep's pluck	"	15	"	"	
Calf's head & feet	"	60	"	"	
Sausage	"	25	"	per lb.	

Public Band.—The following letter from the Band Committee is read and the recommendations therein contained are approved:—

Shanghai, 18th March, 1899.

SIR,—I am directed by the Band Committee to inform you that as the result of an application from Mr. Martinazzi, Assistant Bandmaster, the Committee has decided to recommend to the Council that this employé be released from his agreement and given six months' salary with a second-class passage to Europe.

Owing to the unexpected resignation of Mr. Vela caused by the difficulties with the Bandsmen, and to the fact that Mr. Martinazzi has not yet acquired sufficient experience to perform all the duties connected with the conductorship of the Public Band, the Council has on the recommendation of the Band Committee engaged the services of Professor Sternberg as Bandmaster; on the other hand Mr. Martinazzi's chief reason for accepting the post of Assistant Bandmaster appears to have been his reasonable expectation of filling Mr. Vela's place upon the latter's resignation; under these circumstances the Committee considers that the recommendation above noted is calculated to settle this question in the best interests of the Public and of those concerned.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
A. E. JONES,
For Secretary Public Band Committee.

J. O. P. BLAND, Esq.,
Secretary, Municipal Council, Shanghai.

The Meeting then adjourns.

THE CHINA ASSOCIATION.

The annual general meeting of the Shanghai Branch of the China Association was held on Thursday afternoon at the Shanghai Club. Mr. C. J. Dudgeon presided, and there were present Messrs. E. F. Alford, J. O. P. Bland, J. P. Wade Gard'ner, G. J. Morrison, J. L. Scott (Committee), H. Browett, J. M. Young, H. R. Hearn, C. M. Dyce, D. Brand, A. S. Bremner, M. Wolff, J. Prentice, W. J. Clarke, C. Murray Adamson, P. F. Lavers, R. Macgregor, J. Thorburn, W. Lamond, jr., R. M. Campbell, J. Tulloch, J. Welch, F. Anderson, F. Gove, R. B. Allen, E. Jenner Hogg, C. W. Hay, J. Johnston, J. H. Osborne, and Leonard Kerr, secretary. The notice convening the meeting having been read,

The Chairman said—In proposing the adoption of the Report and Accounts for 1898, I do not propose to occupy your time at any length. In the report an attempt has been made not only to record the matters which have more specially occupied the attention of the Committee, but also to give prominence to the political events of the year, events which undoubtedly carry with them consequences of far-reaching effect in the near future. It is upon the significance of these political events that I desire more particularly to say a few words this afternoon; the work of the Committee in special matters, is, I think, fully enough dealt with in the report that is before you. Living as we do on the actual scene of this present turmoil of Chinese politics, I would venture the opinion that, from the very fact of our proximity to the events which are passing, we are apt to get our views somewhat out of focus; great changes are undoubtedly taking place around us, but perhaps because they have not apparently shown immediate effect upon our day-to-day life, the tendency is towards treating further developments as they occur with growing indifference. However much we may have been startled by earlier movements, nothing now much surprises us—we have, in fact, in great measure come to look upon "alarms and excursions" in Chinese affairs as being in the natural order of things. It is perhaps therefore not inappropriate that in our annual report, and at our annual meeting, we should make some general survey of the political changes which have, in so short a space of time, been brought about in China. The Great Powers have seized for themselves strategic points upon the coast, and that movement is still apparently in process of further development; the sea approach to the capital is now commanded by Great Britain on one side and Russia on the other; China has been forced into the opening of new ports for reasons political rather than commercial—a significant departure from previous policy; railway and mining concessions have been extracted from her by methods not far short of force; the Emperor has been dethroned, and is a prisoner in his own palace; the Dowager Empress has re-assumed power with a policy which, to all outward appearance, is both reactionary and anti-foreign, creating a position in Peking which, in view of what is going on elsewhere, is nothing short of ludicrous. Now, as I have said, there is no doubt that in the earlier stages of this political turmoil events were watched with excited interest, but, as eels are said to get used to skinning, so are we getting so accustomed to extraordinary occurrences in this country, that, I repeat, the tendency is towards receiving new developments with complacent indifference. You are probably by this time asking yourselves what I am driving at; my point is simply this, that there is danger in indifference, and therefore it is all the more important that we should have an Association such as this, whose duty it is to keep, through an organised system, a watch upon events, and upon their relation to the interests which we are banded together to protect. Gentlemen, I feel tempted to go on to say something further in connection with the work of this Association. I have heard it said, and have been told myself, that the China Association is all very well, that it no doubt writes a lot, and spends a lot of money in telegrams, but, it is asked, what real effect has it; is, in fact, the work done worth the bother entailed? Well, gentlemen, I can state with the confidence of knowledge that the China Association, both in London and through its branches, exercises very considerable influence, and that the work which it does is well worth the trouble entailed. I know also that it has been said that the Committee do not give the members enough information about what it is doing. Now in reply to this I would say that, though in

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

such complaint I think that the nature of the work of the Association is in a measure forgotten—there being many cases, of course, in which it is impossible, for various reasons which will at once occur to you, for the Committee to publish its doings—yet I would very much like to see the Association working in fuller touch with the powers of public opinion and the public Press, and more particularly through the China party in the House of Commons which has lately been formed. But until recently, as you know, it has been pretty well impossible to attract the interest of public opinion, or of the Press, or of the House of Commons to Chinese affairs, now, however, that interest is fully aroused I trust that these levers upon Government action will be made full use of. At the suggestion of Lord Charles Beresford, an attempt was recently made by this Committee to get its views upon the situation circulated as widely as possible at home, and it is hoped that some practical good may have been attained; we may at least be certain that through the powerful aid of Lord Charles Beresford himself there will be a considerable airing of the China question before long. If we can succeed in interesting the home public through the means I have indicated, members would be better able to follow the work that is going on, though details of work, at the time of doing, must be left to the discretion of the Committee. Returning to the year which is the subject of our report, I would describe it not only as one of high political interest, but also as one of exceptional progressive effort—effort which it is not fair to judge by the paucity of result so far attained. None of us have been unprepared for the dead weight of opposition which we knew was to be expected in attempts to introduce new methods into Chinese ways and administration, and our expectations have certainly not been disappointed. Several of the efforts towards progress are mentioned in the report, and all have been met with the usual Chinese duplicity and evasion; new ports have been granted but we see are to be opened under terms unknown in the treaties; the work of three and a-half years in connection with the extension of these Settlements has for the time being ended in a farce; the old claim that likin exemption only applies within the areas of the Settlements at the ports is being actively revived and acted upon; in other matters the story is just the same, and the conclusion is plain that recent lessons have taught China nothing, and that she is determined to carry on her policy of chicanery and trickery until force is used to bring her fool's paradise tumbling about her ears. We have recently been told that China is a "going concern," and to borrow a joke which has already been made she is doing her best to make herself a "gone concern." Gentlemen, I have alluded to the period which we are passing though as one of progressive effort. I would go on to express my belief that, with the forces that are now at work both inside and outside this Empire, we are entering upon the beginning of the realisation of many of the objects which have been urgently pressed by this Association. The effects of railway development must carry consequences entirely upsetting the old order of things, but railway development must still require several years before it can be brought to what may be called practical fruition; in the meantime we must heartily acknowledge the efforts of Her Majesty's Minister in his other attempts to break down the barrier of Chinese exclusivism, notably through the opening the inland water-ways, and through the extension of China's one honest source of revenue as represented by the Imperial Maritime Customs. As I have said, there are many forces at work in what is going on, and though it may be a minor one, persistent effort on the part of this Association is one of them. We have done a good deal through butting our heads against this stony Chinese wall, and I trust that we will stedfastly continue to try the thickness of our skulls in the same system of obstinate endeavour. Gentlemen, with these remarks I will propose the resolution that the report and accounts as presented be passed. (Applause.)

Mr. Alford seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

The Chairman—The only other business is the election of a committee for the ensuing year. The committee that is nominated by the outgoing committee, no names having been sent in, consists of Messrs. Alford, Bland, F. Anderson, C. Dowdall, Hewett, Wade Gard'ner, G. J. Morrison, J. L. Scott, and E. B. Skottowe. I beg to propose that these gentlemen be elected as a committee for the ensuing year.

Mr. Alford explained that though he was not likely to remain here his name had been included in the list with the object, which he highly appreciated, of having a seat for his successor.

Mr. Browett seconded the proposed names, which were agreed to unanimously.

This concluded the formal business of the meeting.

Mr. D. Brand—I think it would be a serious omission on the part of this meeting to separate without thanking the Chairman and the committee for their services during the past year, and especially as this happens to be the last occasion upon which, I believe, the Chairman will preside, I specially refer to the Chairman's services. From the reports which have been published it seems to me the work must have been exceedingly arduous, and so far as an outsider can gather it seems to be very well done. Beyond expressing a wish that Mr. and Mrs. Dudgeon may have a pleasant journey and a happy time when at home, I have very little more to say, unless it is to express to him that when he has nothing important to do in London he might find his way to 10, Downing Street, and if he addresses the noble Lord the Minister for Foreign Affairs in the same eloquent way he has addressed the community here, it will have far more weight than the lucubrations that have appeared from the *Times'* correspondent or any other gifted persons. (Laughter and applause.)

The Chairman—Mr. Brand and gentlemen, I have, on behalf of the committee, to thank you for the way in which you, Mr. Brand, proposed the vote of thanks, and the members for the way in which you received it. As regards myself, I feel very much gratified at what Mr. Brand has said. As regards the work, I am not going to deny that I have done some, but still there is not much credit to be attached to me, in that it is work that I have liked and enjoyed. There is only one exception I will make to what Mr. Brand has said, that is in connection with going to 10, Downing Street, which I plainly say is the very last place I intend going to. (Laughter.)

The meeting then separated.

£5 000 Boxes would not be thought too large an amount to pay for the blessing of health by many wretched sufferers who by day and night are tortured with the racking pains peculiar to gout and rheumatism. Relief, however, can be procured at a much less cost by the aid of Holloway's Pills and Ointment. The former are of so purifying a nature, that a few doses taken in time are an effectual preventive against an attack of either. The Ointment should be thoroughly rubbed into the parts affected at least twice a day after they have been sufficiently fomented with warm water, which opens the pores and facilitates the introduction of the Ointment to the glands.

160c-89 234 17th Oct., 1899.

Report.

THE SHANGHAI RANGERS' ATHLETIC CLUB.

President: Hon. John Goodnow (U.S. Consul-General).

Vice-President: Rev. C. E. Darwent, M. A.

Committee: Messrs H. Mackenzie, B. Anderton, C. W. Marmon, A Hill, T. Webster.

Hon. Secretary: Alfred Cunningham.

Hon. Treasurer: J. F. Bromfield.

THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT for 1898-9.

The Committee have much pleasure in publishing their annual report and accounts for the year ending March 31st, 1899.

Since the reorganisation of the Club last year, which commenced the season under review, it has progressed very satisfactorily both in regard to its share of local sport and its membership. The Club has embraced Cricket and Football, and during the next season it is intended to include Tennis. The membership at present stands at sixty-two and the Committee trust to see a large increase during the present season.

With regard to the accounts it will be seen that the Club has managed to pay its way, though the cricket gear took up a good deal of the income. During the next season the cricket gear will have to be replenished and increased, and tennis nets, etc., will have to be purchased. This the Committee hope to accomplish with satisfactory results.

Cricket.—It may interest the members to know that the Cricket season was fairly successful in results, and taking into consideration the limited number of cricketers the Club numbers in its ranks, and the still more limited number of good cricketers, the result of the season's matches is gratifying. The Club hope to do better during the ensuing season. 9 matches were played, of which 4 were won, 4 lost, and 1 drawn.

Football.—The principal feature of the Rangers has been Football and in this sport the Club has done exceedingly well. The Rangers have played more matches than any team in Shanghai, altogether 21 games, won 14, lost 6, and drawn 1. The average is very good, and during next season it has already been decided to go in for a systematic training and one of the best home players in the team will be appointed trainer. Several good footballers joined during the season, and the Rangers were able to put a fairly efficient team on the field. The Committee recognise the need, however, of the team being thoroughly coached, in position and combination. The footballers are hopeful of the future.

The Institute Scheme.—On the proposition of the Hon. Secretary the Committee has considered the possibility of meeting a need that is obviously apparent, that is the formation of an Institute, to partake of the character of headquarters for the Club and also to provide a place where the members can spend an evening with physical and mental profit and recreation. It is purposed if possible, to raise money for this amongst the supporters of the Club, and to start in a very modest way, according to the possible subscriptions forthcoming. The new Committee will take the matter actively in hand.

The Committee beg to thank H. J. H. Tripp, Esq., for his kindness *re* ground arrangements during the Season, and also the Recreation Ground Committee for permission to use the ground.

The Annual General Meeting will be held in the Shipping Office, U.S. Consulate-General, on Wednesday, April 5th, at 5.30 p.m. Members willing to serve on the Committee for the coming season must communicate their names before Tuesday, April 4th.

ALFRED CUNNINGHAM,
Hon. Secretary.

21st March 1899.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE DURING SEASON ENDING MARCH 31ST, 1899.

	Dr. $
To Balance	18.00
,, 48 Members @ $5	240.00
,, Unpaid Subscriptions	20.00
	278.00
To Balance	$ 30.00

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

Cr. Cricket Season.	$
By Cricket gear	88.20
,, Wages (coolies)	42.80
,, Advertising and printing	14.10
,, Refreshments	10.50
,, Sundries	8.00
	163.60
Football Season.	
By Football gear	29.00
,, Wages (coolies)	17.55
,, Advertising, printing	9.75
,, Refreshments	11.40
,, Sundries	16.70
	84.40
	248.00
By Balance	30.00
	278.00

E. & O. E.
March 28th, 1899.
J. F. Bromfield,
Hon. Treasurer.

Audited and found correct,
Thomas Webster.

Amusements.

SHANGHAI GOLF CLUB.

The result of the Ferrier Cup Handicap which was played on the 25th, 26th, and 27th of March was as follows:—

Players.	Gross Score.	Strokes Allowed.	Net Score.
E. Molloy	87	3	84
W. F. Wingrove	96	12	84
E. O. Arbuthnot	91	6	85
H. T. Butterworth	97	10	87
Wade Gard'ner	93	5	88
Dr. J. Ward Hall	100	11	89
A. N. Woodward	110	20	90
E. W. Sharples	99	8	91
C. H. Godfrey	112	20	92
F. Lurkins	103	10	93
C. Selby Moore	108	12	96
C. E. Holworthy	117	15	102
Dr. Stanley	121	18	103
C. Biron	116	11	105
J. Cooper	126	20	106

27 Scores not returned.

FOOTBALL.

BONAVENTURES *v.* SHANGHAI FOOTBALL CLUB.

The S.F.C. reopened their football season on Saturday afternoon with a game of Rugby and sustained a defeat at the hands of their opponents. The game throughout was most interesting, and in the first half, most even, neither side scoring a point. In the second half, however, the naval team got a touch down and made a splendid goal thereby. Play then grew desperate and some ten minutes before closing, the local team had a touch down, but failed to secure the coveted goal, the ball striking one of the posts and rebounding into the field. A few minutes' exciting play followed when time was called, leaving the *Bonaventures* victors by one goal to a try.

News by the Tape has often been utilised by a bold speculator for the speedy accumulation of a vast fortune. Knowledge is power in every avenue of life when properly wielded. The proprietor of Holloway's Pills and Ointment is fully alive to this fact, and knowing their value as a cure for all diseases, he has made their merits known in all parts of the world. Commercial men who, to keep pace with the times, have always to work at high pressure should never be without a supply of these valuable medicines. They purify the blood, strengthen the stomach, quicken the circulation and invigorate the system. For nervous or neuralgic headache, no remedy has been found to match them in excellence.

1600-99 234 17th Oct., 1893.

Correspondence.

POST OFFICE AND OTHER GRIEVANCES.

To the Editor of the
North-China Daily News.

Sir,—I have, as you will see from my card, nothing to do with any Post Office, native or foreign, except of course as a customer, but I think it only just that the one-sided statements constantly made in the Press concerning the evil deeds of this or that public department should not be allowed to pass unchallenged merely because those against whom they are made are naturally not in a position, even had they the time, to reply. Serious allegations are often made without due thought and in ignorance of the working of the department criticised, or with what can only be interpreted as express malice. For instance, I have often seen it stated, with a sneer, in leading articles and elsewhere, that Consular trade reports when sent home are "pigeon-holed" by the Foreign Office, implying that merchants, whose benefit these reports are indirectly intended to serve, have no access to them. Considering that all these reports are published at great expense and issued at a price which certainly does not cover the cost of printing, it is obvious both that the merchant has nobody but himself to thank if he does not take advantage of the information so easily to be obtained, and also that the criticism referred to is, to say the least, exceedingly unjust. Similarly, I read in a recent issue of your paper a picturesque account of bascars jumping on mail-bags, etc., which can only have been made in entire ignorance of the manner in which letters are carried on the mail steamers. Being tied up in bundles, little if any damage could result to the letters from the conduct alleged, which, granting that it took place on the occasion referred to, can scarcely in fairness be taken as a sample of the way in which letters are habitually treated, as your correspondent's letter would cause one to believe. In the same communication, moreover, the loss of letters sent from an inland station is, without any supporting facts being given, laid at the door of the British Post Office, whereas the bag was far more likely to have been lost or stolen whilst still in charge of the native carrier up-country, as is known to have happened more than once.

I do not wish to be taken to allege that any Post Office is perfect, but I think it only just that complaints made against those unable to defend themselves should not be made in the careless and sometimes malicious manner so often adopted. By making complaints carelessly and without due substantiation, the case is only weakened, and the object arrived at—remedial measures—postponed. But when complaints are really justifiable it is our duty to make them, and in pursuance of this maxim I will take this opportunity of making one myself. Having occasion recently to make enquiry (in an outport) at the Customs Post Office, I received, instead of the information sought, nothing but flippant impertinence. Now, when people are rude it is my custom to leave them to stew in their own juice, and I accordingly telegraphed to my friends to make sure that the matter would not miscarry. After having done so I ruminated, and amongst other thoughts the one which asserted itself oftenest was, that whilst rudeness is never justifiable it is least of all becoming on the part of an Imperial Chinese Post Office (why not Post Office simply, as in England?) which has not been admitted to the Postal Union!

One point more. The popular sense of justice does not seem to require that when anyone has complained through a newspaper to all the world that he has not received a letter and that letter is subsequently received by him (which it actually is, in many cases), he should write again to make reparation for his premature accusation. If I imagine that some one has stolen a dollar belonging to me, and after having proclaimed to heaven and earth that A. has robbed me I find the dollar in my pocket, it is no more than the act of a gentleman, not to speak of morality and justice, to make my mistake as public as my ill-founded charge. I cannot recall one single instance of this having been done. Speaking from my own experience alone, though I have now and again expected letters which were never written, and have occasionally had to complain of delay in delivery, I have not, so far as I am aware, lost a single letter within the last fifteen years. Considering the risks which cannot but attend the transmission by any carrying agent of millions of letters over the great distance separating Europe from China, this is, I think, a not unsatisfactory result, and I am inclined to believe that the number of letters really lost is very small. My experience, at any rate, seems to tell against the statement of one of your correspondents, which I feel compelled to regard as a piece of ridiculous exaggeration, that it is necessary to register every letter in order to ensure its reaching its destination.

I am, etc.,

A Lover of Justice and Truth.

25th March.

THE HONGKONG POST OFFICE.

To the Editor of the
North-China Daily News.

Sir,—Along the line of "Reformer's" letter I have had an experience that may throw some light. I, too, have sent letters to Hongkong under cover and have received the following letter from the Hongkong Postmaster, Mr. Hastings, to whom I wrote on the subject and enclosed with the letters to be forwarded. He says: "Doubtless the 10 cents rate is evaded largely by the method you have adopted—sending letters under cover into the Colony—but to expect the officer in charge of the Post Office to connive at and actively assist such evasion you must perceive is improper. Your letters . . . have been taxed."

Now my reply to this is an emphatic denial of the assertion that there has been an evasion of the law and an indignant rebutting of the insinuation that something that is not strictly right has been done by me. In the first place I wrote a letter to the Post Office, Hongkong, and enclosed my letters to England, each one properly addressed and stamped with the regulation British postage, namely four cents, as per the Hongkong tariff. The letter bearing these to Hongkong was posted in China in the I. P. O. and full letter rates were paid on it to Hongkong. So far then it seems there can be nothing to complain of. As soon as they are delivered at the Post Office Hongkong by the I. P. O. the responsibility of the latter ceases; their contract has been discharged. When the letters were handed to the General Post Office in Hongkong they were by that act "posted" in the legal sense in Hongkong. I fail therefore to see where I have trangressed either Chinese or British Postal regulations.

That being the case on what ground has the Hongkong Postmaster taxed these letters? They were posted in Hongkong and the full legal postage has been paid. The letters will bear the Hongkong postmark and yet be taxed although postage has been fully paid. This is an anomaly. The Postmaster urges that the letters were

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

written in China! As though that constituted any reason for taxing my letters! If I write some letters and request a friend who is going to Hongkong to post them there is that unlawful? The Hongkong Postmaster says it is. If so, a man who is travelling on a steamer to Hongkong and writes a letter on board has no right to post it in Hongkong for four cents, but must pay the full 10 cents. To my mind it is no concern of the Hongkong Post Office or its Postmaster where or by whom the letter is written. It is confided to the Hongkong Post Office with all legal dues paid and the Office has no option but to carry it to its destination without further charges.

There have appeared in your correspondence columns hints that mail matter is being stolen in Hongkong for the sake of the Chinese postage; whether that be true or not, certain it is that I and many others have lost a lot of our letters and now when we take steps, perfectly in accordance with the law, we are told that such steps are improper and our letters are taxed!!! Is there no one that can take this incorrigible office in hand and put some light and progressiveness into its management?

THE DATE FOR THE PENNY POST DETERMINED.

A large number of your readers have been anxious to know when we in China were to have the benefit of the Penny Post; I am now in a position to inform them. The Postmaster in reply to my enquiries on the subject says: "When China joins the Postal Union the penny postage will extend to her." I was under the impression that the penny postage was to British colonies and dependencies. The above information therefore means, I presume, that China will at that time be a British Crown(!) or some other kind of colony or protectorate. Owing to the Extraterritoriality Clause by which we are governed in China each nationality is treated as if on the soil of the homeland or colony and Britishers have always been under the Hongkong Post Office. Now we are severed and I for one would like to know under what system we really are.

If the above information is correct we shall have to peg away at Sir Robert Hart till he has brought China into the Postal Union. I do not see, however, what that has got to do with it. We have always had the same rates as Hongkong in time past and now suddenly a distinction is made in favour of Hongkong on the plea that China is not in the Postal Union!!

Now Shanghai! the Emporium of the East! Wake up and demand your rights and equal privileges with Hongkong!

I am, etc.

A Taxed Britisher.

27th March.

To the Editor of the

North-China Daily News.

Sir,—Although myself an occasional railer at the Hongkong Post Office, I cannot quite see that "A Taxed Britisher's" indignant lament over his abortive attempt to make the Postmaster General at Hongkong do the work which your correspondent as a rule doubtless delegates to his coolie, i.e. post his letters, is anything but slightly ridiculous. In my humble opinion, the Hongkong Postmaster would be quite justified in putting such letters as our overtaxed countryman describes, in his waste-paper basket, seeing that they undoubtedly are his property once the covering envelope has been addressed to him and been duly posted in Shanghai.

The Postmaster General, in the letter which he—very kindly, but quite unnecessarily as I think—took the trouble to write to your correspondent, has perhaps not based his objections on the best grounds; but I think that a letter forwarded to the Postmaster General in the manner described by your correspondent cannot be considered to have been *posted* in Hongkong, and that we are not justified in claiming as a *right* the privilege of posting letters in any way other than by placing them in the recognised letter boxes. The Postmaster General may perhaps be wrong in taxing your correspondent's letters as he should have refused to forward them at all; but the "Taxed Britisher" is certainly not justified in evolving a grievance from the very natural refusal of the Postmaster General to do him the somewhat unusual favour of posting his letters for him.

Trusting you will be able to find room for this,

I am, etc,

Another Taxed Britisher.

28th March.

[It is a recognised practice in China to send letters to be posted, in a chit-book or sealed box to the postmaster, and it is no more trouble to the postmaster if they are sent to him in a sealed envelope.—Ed.]

A BOAT RACE IN THE NORTH.

To the Editor of the

North-China Daily News.

Sir,—I beg to send you the result of a Boat Race which took place at Taku Bar on Sunday, the 19th of March, between the officers and engineers of the following steamers of Messrs. Butterfield & Swire:—

s.s. *Singan.*—1.

C. H. Verner	Stroke.
M. Anderson	2
H. Christie	3
J. D. James	4

s.s. *Kashing.*—2.

H. Hooker	Stroke.
Cowen	2
P. Agnew	3
T. Murray	4

s.s. *Chungking.*—3.

D. Mackenzie	Stroke.
J. Coyle	2
Arthur	3
P. Blair	4

s.s. *Tungchow.*—4.

H. Walker,	Stroke.
J. Fildes	2
J. Scott	3
McKechnie	4

s.s. *Chihli.*—5.

J. Inch	Stroke.
J. Shearer	2
Unknown	3
do.	4

After the finish of the race a very enjoyable tiffin was provided for the competitors on board the s.s. *Tungchow.*

I am, etc.,

Observer.

Taku, 21st March.

THE TUNGSHA'S SIREN.

To the Editor of the

North-China Daily News.

Sir,—Your statement, which may have meant a joke, that "groundless cause of complaint" was not there in the action of the firm who made day hideous with the blare of the *Tungsha* fog-horn is very far from fact. Perhaps as mellowed by distance and the having to pass over Pootung Point and all the houses there it may have come to your ear softened like that of Scotia's pipes on Scotland's braes. But I assure you and my statement would be borne out by any of those who dwell in the lower limits, afloat or ashore, that it was an unmitigated nuisance and had the vessel been moored off Shanghai reach that nuisance would have been abated in less than an hour.

I am, etc.,

Longshoreman.

30th March.

THE SUPPRESSION OF RABIES.

To the Editor of the

North-China Daily News.

Sir,—Having owned dogs for a great number of years, I should like to make a few remarks on the present Rabies scare in Shanghai, if you will grant me the hospitality of your columns. In your yesterday's leading article you decry the remarks of "Daybreak" in *Sport and Gossip* as being wanting in consideration of the facts of the case, and you state: "We presume that 'Daybreak' agrees with the Council that it was desirable to thin out the half-wild dogs that have become such a nuisance *as well as an undoubted danger on the outside roads.*" Now, on the latter part of this statement I disagree with you. What *proof* have you or the Council that the "half-wild dogs" are a danger? Can it be shown that any of these animals are rabid or have caused other dogs to become rabid? I think not, and I fancy it would be far easier to prove that this terrible disease of the canine race has been imported from Europe or America into China and more especially into the Treaty ports. As a nuisance, the extermination of the native cur is a distinctly praiseworthy movement. Several deaths from hydrophobia have unfortunately lately occurred in the Settlement, but dispassionately reviewing the facts of these cases, as far as the general public are aware of them, can the "half-wild dog" be blamed? The cases have all resulted from bites by European or European-owned pets, and no statement has to my knowledge been mooted that the animals became rabid from the bite of a native cur.

Then again, is the Pasteur treatment wholly free from suspicion? The chief medical authorities of Great Britain, I believe, though here I am subject to correction, do not put any faith in it, and the extracts quoted by "Daybreak" in his "Notes and Notions" on Sunday last are quite in accord with the views of a great many of our home folk. Then, have the dogs who bit these unfortunate people, in every case, been proved by any *competent* authority to be rabid? I doubt it. The only competent authority is the veterinary surgeon and from what I know of these gentlemen this is the last subject upon which they will give a positive declaration.

Another growl that the dog owners are entitled to, is the extreme measures resorted to by the Council against foreign-owned dogs. If one's dog managed to escape from one's premises and fall into the clutches of the dog-catcher, having no muzzle on, a summons followed and the magistrate taking rational cognisance of the triviality of the case inflicted a small fine by way of caution. This not being sufficient the Council changes its tactics and now blackmails the offending dog owner by demanding the exorbitant fee of ten dollars for the release of the captured animal, no option being offered him but to pay up or leave his dog, half-starved, amongst a lot of mangy curs in the Municipal kennels. The Council presumably premises that the dog owner wilfully disregards its regulations and mulcts him in such a large sum that he will find the pastime expensive, whereas in the majority of cases the dog's unmuzzled roaming is purely accidental and against his owner's wish. Would not the licensing scheme, which has been often mooted and which works well in other parts of the world, be more rational as well as more effective than the present burst of misplaced energy? Enclosing my card,

I am, etc.,

Canis.

30th March.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

Miscellaneous.

THE GOOD FRIDAY PERFORMANCE OF "THE CRUCIFIXION."

As the handmaid of religion, music has once more made good her claim by filling the Cathedral on a Good Friday. Friends of the Church had known for some time that the evening service was to be almost wholly musical, and but for a short Lesson, and the three Good Friday Collects embracing their pious prayer for mercy on "all Jews, Turks, Infidels, and Heretics," the whole service was devoted to a rendering of Stainer's "Meditation," entitled *The Crucifixion*. Such a new departure deserves encouragement, and from the success attending it, we may perhaps look forward next year to selections from some more ambitious production, Bach's *Passion Music* for example. There was but one serious drawback to the performance and that was perhaps unavoidable and lay in the hymns which are intended to be sung by the whole congregation. Beautiful as their setting is, it had the fatal fault of being new. Congregational music must be familiar or it is nothing. Had the hymns been set to well-known tunes there would have been an added interest in the service.

As it was, the singing was almost entirely of the concert order. As narrators and soloists, Dr. Hagberg and Mr. Wood proved equal to the occasion. Their music was by no means easy in places, and required considerable dramatic vigour for its right interpretation. The chorus was well balanced, well in hand, and perfectly responsive to the *bâton* of the conductor, Mr. Crompton.

The "Meditation" tells the tragic story of the eve and day of the first Good Friday. The scene opens in the garden of Gethsemane, with recitatives and chorus. Then it shifts to the Judgment Hall, where sentence is pronounced, and the victim led away to death. An evident misreading of the metronome time robbed the "Processional to Calvary" of all stateliness and solemnity, and led to the next chorus, "Fling wide the Gates," being taken somewhat too fast. There was, however, ample scope for fire and vigour of treatment in what is undoubtedly a very fine chorus. Skill and simplicity are combined in the imitative passages for the various parts, and the deputy organist, Mr. G. F. Lanning, was not slow to avail himself of the full resources of the magnificent instrument at his command.

> "Fling wide the gates, the Saviour waits.
> He has come from above,
> In his power and love,
> To die on this Passion day.

As this sinks to a whisper, the "March to Calvary" is resumed amidst meditative passages and hymns, including an admirable recitative leading to the unaccompanied chorus, "God so loved the World," perhaps the gem of the performance. A beautifully rendered duet, "O 'twas love's divinest feature," leads up to an equally beautiful hymn, "Jesus the Crucified pleads for me," and then the narrative is resumed, two members of the choir taking the parts of the "Two Malefactors." The various "sayings" are given by a chorus of tenors and basses, the last full chorus, "From the throne of his Cross," coming amongst them. Here again was ample scope for alternate impassioned musical declamation and tender pleading, and both instrument and voices rose to the occasion, giving an admirable rendering of some noble music. The narrative is resumed and the end reached, the *Meditation* closing with a hymn.

Mr. Crompton and his helpers are to be congratulated upon a very good recital, and as we have said, we trust the initial success of the new departure will lead to further efforts in a similar direction.

QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE PERMANENT MEMORIAL FUND.

VICTORIA NURSING INSTITUTE.

Position of account at date.	Tls.
Fixed deposit due 29th Aug., 1899	20,000.00
" 1st Sept., 1899	500.00
" 29th March 1900.	6,500.00
Accrued interest on deposits say	599 15
Current account	50 85
	Tls. 27,650.00

Subscriptions not yet collected	Tls.	$
	193	85
Subscription conditional	100	
	Tls. 293	$5

Subscriptions not previously acknowledged :—

	Tls.
A. Soame	10.00
J. H. Craven	25.00
Julius Lemke	25.00
C. S. Addis	50.00
O. Mensor	50.00
H. E. K.	25.00

William D. Little,
Hon. Treasurer.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Round the World on a Wheel, being the Narrative of a Bicycle Ride of nineteen thousand two hundred and thirty-seven miles through seventeen Countries and across three Continents, by John Foster Fraser, S. Edward Lunn, and F. H. Lowe. Written by John Foster Fraser. With one hundred illustrations. In cloth, 8vo., 532 pp. London: Methuen & Co. 1899.

The Baro-Cyclono-Meter: a new Instrument the Object of which is to Determine the Existence and Forecast the Approaching of Typhoons. In paper, 8vo., 8 pp. With a photograph and plans. Manila: Observatory Private Printing Office, 1898.

Bric-à-Brac, the Stamp-Collector's Manual. January, 1899. Small 8vo., 12 pp. London: published by J. W. Palmer. (1d.)

Tenth Annual Report of the Canadian Presbyterian Mission in North Honan, China, for 1898. In paper, 8vo., 28 pp. Shanghai: American Presbyterian Mission Press.

THE *CHING-CHANG* AND *HUI-CHANG* OFFICES.

We have been requested to publish the following letter:—

Shanghai, 30th March.

Sir,—My attention has been directed to your letter of the 21st of February last, addressed to the foreign Press of Shanghai. I have been appointed by the Viceroy of Nanking to take charge of the *Ching-Chang* and *Hui-Chang* Offices referred to in your letter. These offices were established for the better regulation of the ownership of land at Woosung, and as there seems to be misapprehension as to their respective functions, it is desirable that the same should be explained.

The Woosung Settlement was opened on the special application of the Viceroy of Nanking to the Throne permitting foreigners and Chinese to rent and buy land there as the case may be for purposes of trade and residence. The *fantans* for land at Woosung were destroyed during the Taiping rebellion and in case of ordinary transactions only a bill of sale was made without even presenting it to the magistrate for registration. Formerly this course caused little difficulty but after the opening of the Settlement and with the rapid rise in the value of the land, in many cases several times or even ten times its former value, serious troubles arose. The original land-owners now regret having made a cheap bargain and in some cases illegally sold the same piece of land a second time. This gave rise to considerable litigation. To improve matters the Viceroy has given orders for the establishment of a *Ching-Chang* or Land Regulation Office to which the land-owners should send their documents of title for proper inspection and surveying to exchange for the *fantan* as was formerly the case in Shanghai. After the *fantan* is granted all transactions respecting the land will have regard to that *fantan* in which the ward and number where the land is situated and also its area and boundaries are specified in addition to its being stamped with the magistrate's seal. The *Ching-Chang* Office is therefore to prevent illegal transactions with regard to the land and to give regular titles for the same.

With reference to land rented to foreigners the lessee has only to apply to his own Consul for *Hui-Chang* or joint surveying as in the case of land in Shanghai, and the *Hui-Chang* or Joint Surveying Office has been established especially for the above purpose. The two Offices do quite different business and in fact one has no connection whatever with the other. In the *Hui-Chang* Office there is always an English interpreter who will be present at the joint surveying with the foreign officer and the Chinese surveyor. According to Woosung calculation one *mow* is equal to 200 *kung* (one *kung* = 5 feet 6 inches) but now it is decided to make 240 *kung* or 7,260 feet equal to one *mow*. A fee of $10 is charged on each mow for joint surveying. In Shanghai 8 per cent of the value of land is charged, i.e., for every Tls. 100 of value a fee of Tls. 8 is charged. The highest value of land in Woosung is more than Tls. 3,000 per mow and the cheapest is not less than Tls. 300 or 400. If the fee is charged at the Shanghai rate of 8 per cent, more than Tls. 200 will be charged in the one case and Tls. 25 or 35 in the other. The rate of fee of $10 a *mow* fixed by the Viceroy is in some cases 10 times and in many cases 20 or 30 times lower than the Shanghai rate.

With reference to the land belonging to the Hsingli and Heng-Yuen Companies, *fantans* have been applied for and granted under the foregoing regulations. It was Government land bought by the Chinese merchants forming these Companies who can dispose of the land as they think fit and in respect of which neither Chinese nor foreign officials have the least right to interfere.

I remain, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Sih Tsu-ito,
Director of Ching-Chang and Hui-Chang Offices.

To E. F. Alford, Esq.,
Chairman of the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce.

ANTI-FOREIGN OUTRAGES IN SHANTUNG.

ATTACK ON THREE GERMAN TRAVELLERS PLUCKILY REPULSED.

We have been kindly permitted to publish the following extract from a private letter dated Ichoufu, the 23rd of March :—

To the south-west, twenty miles from us, there have been a number of riots, but no one punished for anything as yet. A Catholic priest who is just in from that vicinity to-day says that his life has only been saved through the fleetness of his horse; and that for three months he has had to keep the horse saddled day and night, so that he might be able to flee at any hour.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

Three Catholic Christians have been killed in Feihien, about 40 miles to the west of us.

Six of them have been killed at Shenshan, 20 miles S.W., of whom two were burned to death in a big public bonfire. This is a different affair from the one I wrote of in my last letter, when the child was burned, and two had their eyes put out by the fiendish mob.

The perpetrators of the outrage to the east of us, who dismembered the bodies of two Catholics, and burned them over the fire, burned the living child, etc, having received no punishment of any kind, have been emboldened to attempt still further outrages. Yesterday, however, they met with an unexpected check. Three Germans, Lieut. Hanneman, Mr. Forschulte, and Mr. Moots, who had been landed from a gunboat on the coast directly east of us, and who were on their way to this city, stopped at Wangkiachuang, the headquarters of the rioters in that vicinity, for their breakfast. Everything was perfectly quiet and peaceful. There was no disturbance, and after settling for their breakfast they started on their way to this place. After getting out about two *li* from the village, however, they suddenly became aware that they were being followed by a large number of armed men, a hundred or more in number, who had spread out on both sides and were rapidly surrounding them. Some of them carried the ordinary native guns, and some carried the big two-men guns. They were evidently bent on mischief, but the Germans did not at first realise how serious the situation was. Mr. Moots, who has been an official interpreter, stopped and talked to the people, urging them to keep the peace. He assured them that they were not Catholics, or indeed missionaries, but travellers going quietly to Ichoufu. They continued to close up on them and then opened fire. The Germans did all they could to induce them to desist without bloodshed, but without avail. They had taken refuge behind some graves while parleying, but as the only response to their entreaties was a general fusillade from their assailants, and as branches from the trees were falling about them, cut off by the bullets or by shot from the enemies' guns, they saw that the situation was desperate, and determined to sell their lives dearly. They were all armed with revolvers, and began returning the fire of their foes. As their revolvers made comparatively little noise, and gave off almost no smoke, the Chinese set up a shout of derision, and came on more boldly for a little time, until they noticed one and another of their company falling, and then they began to realise that the foreign revolvers were doing execution, if not making a noise, and they began to give way. The Germans then sprang to their feet, ran toward their assailants twenty steps, and falling to the ground, renewed firing. This movement they repeated two or three times, when the Chinese turned and fled. In the meantime their servants and barrowmen had scattered and of their six barrow-loads of effects all but one barrow-load had been carried off. With this one load for Ichoufu, about 25 miles, on foot, they made reaching here about sunset, having been followed by their foes all the way, but without suffering from another attack. At the time they themselves did not know how severely they had punished the enemy, but word comes to-day that three Chinese are dead and three others so badly wounded that recovery is not expected. And now the strange thing is that this morning the missing goods and barrows and men were all brought in by a party of men from that vicinity, who had succeeded in recovering them (with the loss of but a few unimportant articles) from the rioters, and brought them at once to the city. Whether they did this from respect, or whether they feared the three plucky Germans would return and destroy their village, I do not know.

The Germans, with an escort of cavalry furnished by the native official, are starting back to the seacoast to-day, where the German gunboat *Gefion*, with the Governor of Tsintao on board, is awaiting their return, and then we have reason to expect that a body of German soldiers will at once land and march into the interior here, and attempt to restore order. The expedition had come to Antungwei for this purpose, if it was found on investigation that the native officials were unable of themselves to restore peace. They claim that they have no desire for conquest here, and no purpose of permanent occupation, but of course that is what is always said under such circumstances, and it is not always easy to let go. The local officials about here who are competent to handle the people and punish the ringleaders in the repeated riots, are hampered by lack of men and, worse still, by lack of support from the higher officials. In the few cases where they have fought with the mobs in their efforts to preserve order, in case of the death of a rioter the soldiers have been arrested for murder (!), and as the result of one such affair four have lain in jail for months, and would have been executed long before this but for our representations to our Consul, who has greatly interested himself on their behalf.

For some reasons we regret the coming in of the German soldiers here, but there seems to be no other alternative; and as rioting and bloodshed are of almost daily occurrence in this district, and have been for months, and as the native officials cannot or *will* not do anything to remedy matters, we are unable to do any work in the country, and our lives are in daily danger here in the city, and so we will welcome the restoration of quiet, no matter by whom brought about.

[We are informed by the special telegram in another column that the expected German troops have landed.—Ed.]

THE STARS AND STRIPES AT MANILA.

Written for the "North-China Daily News."

It was raining heavily when we entered Manila Bay, and so thick was the atmosphere that the outline of Cavite was hardly distinguishable. After we had anchored—not without the usual warfare of sounds—the representatives of Liberty boarded with fixed bayonets and many rounds of ball cartridge. We were not afraid, however, only intended for use against the people which the glorious and great Republic is setting free.

Now, some of our fellow-passengers hailed from the United States, and these surrounded armed apostles of Freedom and pumping commenced. Policy dictated the effacement of this opponent: it was done. But the remarks which passed, save one only, will not appear in this place; let subsequent proceedings be understood to be governed by "information received" then.

The man from Ohio had asked an officer: "How many weeks before we've hoed this row?" Quoth Mars, and to one listener at least, his words had the ring of Wisdom: "We have bitten off more than we can chew; twenty years perhaps, maybe Eternity. There's only one nation could run this circus in style and that's not Uncle Sam's."

George and I landed; we were there to see all that was to be seen, and tales of how the cowardly Filipinos would stick knives in our backs fell on incautious ears. The banks of the Pasig River were crowded, all kinds of machinery blocked the way, together with army stores and army mules. George remarked that Milwaukee must be very famous—there were solids as well. An overgrown jinricsha-looking thing drawn by a diminutive pony jolted us off to the station. The driver was understood to say that the instrument of torture was called a *carromatto*—possibly a relic of the Holy Office.

Going to the seat of war in a train. Change here for the field of battle. Take your seats for the evening's lines! Four miles of desolation, ruined cottages, untilled fields; ashes of once happy homes, with the household pottery and kitchen utensils strewed amongst them; and here and there a lean cat wandering starved amid the wreck.

Caloocan Railway Station, what there is left of it. All get out, please. The galvanised iron engine-house looks like a sieve, the corner of the station house fell before one of Dewey's shells from the Bay. We are stopped by a sentry: "No further, gentlemen, unless you have a pass." We haven't, yet we go on. "Information received" dear friends.

Close to the station is a church, no, was a church, it is now a hospital and somebody's headquarters; and from there a broad and straight road runs across a little plain to the trees under which the rebels are established. Yes! I said "Rebels"—why not? Did not our forefathers say "Rebels" until the Declaration of Independence was signed? But the Filipinos have never owed allegiance to the States.

Standing in the lines behind a breastwork, which seems at times painfully, pitiably low, we watch the grand work of enfranchisement proceeding.

At the edge of the trees are figures in white, seen for a moment and lost again. They that come clothed in Uncle Sam's clothes, to preach deliverance to the captives, and freedom to them that are bound, are firing at these white-garmented people. One falls—"I got 'im, Bill" says the missionary next to me. Poor—shall I say?—patriot!

Buzz-z-z-z-pht! What is that? That, my dear George, was an insect which flew out of that little patch of white smoke over yonder, 250 yards away, and it would have made you free too, if it had been flying a few inches lower. Stand further away from me, George, or else take off that straw hat.

A private, near me, is relating how he put four shots into a rebel officer—how the rebel rose three times when he was over, and ran on. The fourth time he fell and rose no more.

A sudden noise as of a swarm of angry bees, no smoke this time. George ducked—I saw him. Well really this breast-work is low, it makes me feel absurdly, uselessly tall. Z-z-z-zit! George ducked then, so did I. Well, we musn't miss our train, and this is not our crusade. Lucky, neither of us wounded. But our friend is, he that we left behind near the church, he is wounded in the buckle of his belt and the bullet is still in—the lining of his coat.

That evening, our first on shore, we dine out at a friend's house, and because of the regulation that no one must be out after 7 p.m., we must sleep there as well. Our host is describing the war, when a little Krag-Jorgensen messenger enters unceremoniously through the lath and plaster wall. Don't disturb yourself—merely a sentry shooting at a Filipino—it's after 7 p.m., you know. And so, as Pepys says, to bed, where the deponent dreams of China New Year, for the shots go on all night.

Having visited the left wing, George said that the next day must be spent at the right, and, accordingly, a *carromatto* was chartered to carry us to Guardalupe. After a drive of some miles over the roughest of rough roads, we pass a large church, in which some really magnificent carving had been utterly spoilt by shrapnel. Further on we were again stopped by a sentry, but as before

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

passed on. Somebody else's headquarters stood on the Pasig, whose course the road now followed.

Round and round in an elbow of the waters floated an Emancipated, clad in the white duck suit of a rebel: the bosom bare to the sky, the forearms raised in muto appeal, the face —— Quick! let us hurry on and thank God as we go that *that* cannot bring aught against us.

As we walk on, our *carovalle* having been stopped at headquarters, we note the marks of yesterday's fight. Every little eminence has been made use of by the insurgents; the bare cottage walls have been loop-holed; and under each loop-hole, a pile of empty rifle-shells speaks of a desperate resistance. Barriers at intervals along the road bear the marks of the American fire from the launches on the river, and so close has been the range that the iron telegraph poles are bored through and through. Wrecks of household or personal property by the road-side or among the ruined walls have a melancholy interest. A sewing machine, cut in two, a woman's reticule, a man's panama hat.

On a rise above us stands what remains of the fortified monastery of Guadalupe and we go up and examine it. After a desperate resistance it was abandoned by the insurgents; the numerous shot holes in the walls proclaim their gallantry. The roof, everything but the walls, have been devoured by fire: here are the remains of the pulpit, a tangled mass of hammered ironwork, there the brazen altar candlesticks, seven feet high. The high altar has gone, but the crucifix has not perished entirely, and someone has carried it out and set it against the western door-arch. The cross is partly burned but the Christ, a remarkable piece of carving, is uninjured, and the expression of the eyes lifelike. Following the direction of their gaze, I read on the battered, smoke-stained arch above my head, *Hæc est Domus Dei*.

A corner of the huge building has been spared by fire to fall a prey to the looter. It is a small chapel around the walls of which departed monks sleep in niches, until in the course of time the remains can be placed in the vault underfoot. This vault, once closed by a marble slab bearing a Latin inscription, "They lie here in the earth waiting for the Eternal Life," is now open and discloses a mass of bones, ruthlessly disturbed by the looters. More, the very niches have been broken open and from mouldering coffins, skulls and bones have dropped and strewn the pavement. What did they seek, these robbers of graves? Mayhap a ring on the bony finger of a long, dead brother, or the altar-service hidden away. Faugh! out into the clean air.

The rising ground to the north of the buildings has been well entrenched by the Filipinos, and the Americans would have had a hard job to take the position but for their artillery. We sit in one of these trenches under a tree whose stem is riddled with bullet holes; and as we sit an occasional bullet flies past, for sniping is going on from the opposite bank of the river below us. It's smokeless powder they are using over there—a villainous compound which keeps you in doubt as to which side of the tree you prefer. The insurgents, from appearances, might have quitted the spot a moment ago. Here are the half cocoa-nuts of water, here cigarette ends, a bowl of rice, a bridle carelessly thrown down. In the safer portion of the defence, grass has been placed to sleep on. A frangipani tree has rained its white and golden glories upon a mat flung down over there. Nay! see what trickles from underneath it; but do not raise the mat lest we see that which Medusa-like shall turn us to stone.

Back to the road just as General Anderson passed by followed by his staff. With the courtesy which we received from all the officers and men with whom we were brought in contact he raises his hand to his hat and passes on. A minute or two later and a crowd of prisoners comes by. We follow, looking at the prisoners and conversing with their guards. Pasig Village had fallen and been set fire to; the American boat had reached the lake; the Filipinos had fought like demons. Said one soldier to me: "I didn't like to fire, the beggars were so plucky and exposed themselves so bravely; and when we took the trenches there were women there, shot down while cooking for their husbands and brothers: there were lads of 12 and 14 firing bravely to the last, and old men who could hardly see." The prisoners, 379 in all, were very undersized, not one reached to the shoulder of the shortest of the American guards. One or two of them were certainly not 14 years old, while one was an old man bent double and half-carried by his companions. George and I said that we would not care to form part of the guard to prisoners like that. Next morning's paper said that in the history of warfare, the battle of Pasig would rank second only to that of Waterloo.

We dined out again that night, in a house literally riddled with bullet holes. The first shots between the Americans and the Filipinos were exchanged not very far from here, and our host assured us the very first came from the American side, from the soldiers ashore and the war-vessels in the harbour simultaneously, and at a time when the insurgent leaders were known to be assembled away at Malolo, debating the point of submission to the American rule. He, in common with a great many other European residents, is sheltering in his compound a number of refugees who live in safety under the flag of whatever nation it is to which their protector belongs. Our host told us how he had passed through the American lines and spent some days with the insurgents on more than one occasion, returning in safety to the town.

Now while we sat at dinner a rifle was discharged under the window which overlooked at a few yards distance, the river. We looked out. About 100 feet from the shore a *banca* (large canoe) was floating in the moonlight and two American soldiers getting into a dugout paddled off to it. One peered into the *banca* and made the same remark as the soldier at Caloocan, "I got 'im, Bill." No challenge, no warning. A Filipino in a canoe passes a launch lying with steam up. No flight, no pursuit, simply bang! During that night launches passed down the river laden with the wounded from Pasig.

Now are George and I prejudiced against the Americans? We say, no! We were very favourably impressed with the courteous behaviour we experienced from them: we are not disgruntled at being ordered back from anywhere with words or interfered with in any way, but we would like to see that looting stopped. Some of the European residents of Manila accuse the soldiery of starting fires for the purpose of looting; the householder, a native, fires perhaps at the incendiaries in defence of his house, and the cables inform the world that so many Americans have been wounded while extinguishing incendiary fires.

War, George and I are perfectly aware, is no kid-glove game, rape, rapine and fire come into it under the rules, but we do think that the nation which at this time last year boasted in its numerous newspapers that America, the most free among nations, would cheerfully expend her gold and the blood of her sons to bestow the precious blessing of liberty on a down-trodden sister and snatching her from beneath the heel of the tyrant, set her upon the proud eminence on which she herself stands, is at present a little off her base in the Philippines. At the moment there seems to be more joy in America over 7,000 Filipinos killed in defence of their native land than over all the Cubans who have been liberated. Many times of late we have h en reminded of those lines,

"Ten thousand Frenchmen sent below,
Praise God from whom all blessings flow."

We were glad to find that a number of soldiers were disgusted already with the war, and the shooting down of, as they put it, "little black boys." There seemed to us, however, to be a love of destruction prevalent, and a soldier of the Utah regiment out at Santolan seemed to strike a keynote when he said to George: "You just strike a match on your pants and put it under the eaves of the houses and ricks and up they go in a blaze. I tell you that's bully, it beats fighting all the time."

Let us hope that the United States will conclude that they "have bitten off more than they *ought* to chew" before they have "liberated" many more of the plucky little Filipinos.

THE FIGHT AT CALOOCAN.

The United States Army transport *Grant* put in at Woosung on Friday afternoon for coal. The *Grant* is said to be one of the finest transport ships in the world and has accommodation for 2,100 men. This is the ship that recently came from New York to Manila *viâ* Suez.

The *Grant* left Manila for San Francisco on the evening of the 25th of March intending to coal at Nagasaki, and after taking on a sufficient supply here will proceed to the above place. The *Grant* has on board a few discharged and sick soldiers and sailors besides a number of officers. Among the passengers are Ex-Congressman Dick of Pennsylvania, and J. Martin Miller, a newspaper correspondent from New York. From the latter, who saw the fighting on the forenoon of the 25th of March between General McArthur's Division and the Insurgents at Caloocan, we learn that the loss in killed and wounded on the American side was fully 200 and on the insurgent side the loss was very large, probably running over one thousand killed.

The insurgents were strongly intrenched and they have demonstrated their skill in fortifying themselves for they have been much more strongly intrenched than the Americans. But they are unable to hold out, even then, against the fire and advance of the American troops.

The plan of the Americans on the 25th was to swing the entire twenty miles of lines around from San Pedro Macatti, making the pivot at Caloocan, and this is practically what was done, causing the insurgents to abandon their lines, the Americans sweeping everything before them with the above result, and clearing the country back of Manila, for many miles, of many bands of insurgents, and sweeping their lines away altogether. This may result in scattering them into troublesome bands throughout the outlying country. Herein lies the trouble in handling the insurgents. If they could be bunched in a few places the war could not last long. As it is, there is no telling how long it will last.

PARLIAMENT DISSOLVES by effluxion of time, but Time's flight only adds to the power of disease if means are not taken to eradicate it. Indigestion, stomach and liver complaints especially require urgent treatment, and there are no medicines known which act upon these particular ailments with such success as Holloway's Pills. These grand remedies strengthen the stomach, increase the appetite and rouse the sluggish liver. For bowel complaints they are invaluable, as they remove every primary derangement. They may be used at all times and in all climates by persons affected by biliousness or nausea; for flatulency and heartburn they are specifics. Indeed, no ailment of the digestive organs can resist their purifying and corrective powers.
160c-99 234 17th Oct., 1898.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

THE MENTAL MIRROR OF A NONDESCRIPT.

I.

CHEERS.

Cheers differ curiously; no two assemblies cheer with the same effect even when using the same formula. I have known a transplanted sprig of aristocracy call for "Three chee-ahs for the Shang-ai voluntee-ahs—yah! yah!! yah!!!" Given in marked *staccato*, this yappish pæan used greatly to annoy a Scotch engineer "frae Glaesgae:" he would demand an antidote, which some of us thought worse than the poison, "Thr-r-rae cheer-r-rs mair for the Volunteer-r-rs—Hooray! Hoo-rray!! Hoo-rraay!!!" with a powerful *rallentando* on his flat open a's.

***

Sailors cheer well; they follow a leader, and ally good time to great lung. Even allowing for the bias of Auld Lang Syne, I think the cheering of my old school the best I ever heard. The Captain of the Sixth, the Eleven, or the Team, led by giving the Call; there was then a momentary pause, the signal for dead silence: he next gave as a solo the first "Hip,"—a short sharp snap. The school came in on the second and third, thus making a finely contrasted prelude to the deafening massive roar of the "Hurrahs" "Hip! Hip!! Hip!!! Hur-rah, Hur-rah, Hur-rah! The result was both impressive and stimulating.

***

I have an old note on the word 'Hip' still by me, a relic of long distant student days. "H-o-p, the initial letters of the Crusaders' battle-cry. '*Hierosalyma est perdita*' (Jerusalem is lost)." If modern scholarship rejects this happy origin, I shall feel a philological pang.

***

To suggest practice in cheering seems as odd as to suggest rehearsals for laughing or weeping, but why not? I am confident any public body would gain *kudos* by good cheering; if the attempt were at first too much for the risible faculties a beginning could be made with that terrible hosannah called "Tiger." The thing that roars up and down the China coast under this name is a disgrace to the social and animal kingdoms. If the brute were domesticated and then specialised as in the American Collegiate cheering, and if every community and organisation adopted a particular tiger as its very own, competition might soon evolve a very pretty animal.

***

FICTION.

I have been reading this week Mr. D. Christie Murray's book, *My Contemporaries in Fiction*. The author holds strong views on the work of Marie Corelli and Mr. Crockett, nor does he mince matters about Thomas Hardy, George Moore, and the fleshly school, or as he calls it, "Under French Influence." Mr. Murray sums up the dirt question in literature by an apposite quotation from the *Tempest*: he thinks fiction should be like Prospero's isle, full of "sounds and sweet airs, that *give delight, and hurt not.*"

***

He holds that true criticism has disappeared under the baneful influence of the Publisher's Touts, and he brings out the whole armour of sense and satire against these humbugs. I have read nothing better in racy criticism since the early days of Mr. Birrell. The first chapters teem with epigram, and fine insight, sympathy, and sound sense are expressed in terse incisive English. Mr. Murray delighted me by his handsome appreciation of Charles Reade and George Macdonald: he all but places the former in the first rank as the compeer of Dickens and Thackeray; the grand old Aberdonian he esteems above Barrie.

***

In both cases I think he is right. The neglect of these two accomplished men seems to me a slur on the intelligence of our generation. Reade's *The Cloister and the Hearth* is assuredly one of the greatest *tours de force* in the realms of creative fiction. It ranks with Flaubert's *Salammbô*, Thackeray's *Esmond*, Eliot's *Romola*, and the two masterpieces of Scott and Hugo in the sextet of great historical romances. I say nothing of Reade as a social reformer, in which his influence was only second to Dickens. Many good critics think the humanitarian *propaganda* of *Hard Cash*, *Never Too Late To Mend*, and *Foul Play* have stultified these fine romances on their artistic side. I do not agree, but let the matter pass; the objection does not apply to his exquisite stories, *Christie Johnston*, *White Lies*, *Love me Little*, etc. Reade's women, after Meredith's, are the most natural and lovable in the modern British galleries.

***

If I may impale myself on an old bull, I may say I was much impressed by one feature of Mr. Murray's book—its omissions. On finishing it, I wrote down the names of all the Victorian romancers whose art and excellence, in my judgment, should have ensured their presence in the volume. I quote them for the curious in such matters —The Brontës, Mrs. Banks (*Manchester Man*), Miss Broughton, Mrs. Gaskell, the Gerards, Jean Ingelow, Miss Mulock, Mrs. Oliphant, Ouida, Mrs. Riddell (*George Geith*), Mrs. Stowe, Miss Thackeray, Mrs. Wood, and Miss Yonge. Dr. Alexander (*Johnnie Gibb*), Black, Blackmore, Boldrewood, Charleton, Marion Crawford, Wilkie Collins, George Gissing, the Kingsleys, Lever, Lytton, W. E. Norris, Lawrence Oliphant, Payn, 'Q', Rice, Trollope, and Whyte Melville. From this list, by no means exhaustive, I am sure Mr. Murray could write an equally fascinating book.

***

THE SPANIARDS.

I have this week been re-reading Helps's *Life of Pizarro* with its queer old-world flavour and its occasional strong suggestion of Gibbon. What strenuous heroes those sixteenth-century Spaniards were! Demi-gods in courage, patience, and perseverance; demi-devils in cruelty, greed, and lust. Just think of a handful of men invading a continent, and, by means of sheer pluck, conquering millions of brave enemies with a civilisation and morality almost as good as their own. This huge issue was favourable to Bacon's view that the advance of Western civilisation has been largely a matter of mechanical and other invention. Pizarro's success was due to two positives and two negatives: firearms and cavalry on his side; the absence of poisoned arrows, and an absolute refusal to fight at full-moon on the other. Who can give anything approaching to an adequate explanation of the decadence of the Spaniards as a nation? I know the usual parrot-talk on the subject:—American gold, bad economics, religious intolerance and superstition, priest rule and the Inquisition. I have digested all that the sagacious Lecky says on the subject in his *Rationalism*. Each and all seem to me inadequate. Borrow goes deep into the subject with his usual originality in his *Spanish Gipsies*. He asperses the national character with avarice—the rage for money is only comparable to the winter hunger of wolves for horseflesh; he says that even religious persecution was but a mask for the viler motives of greed and envy of superior talent. He credits much to the canker of mal-administration such as we see in China, and indeed *Gil Blas*, the immortal work of Le Sage, is a terrible indictment of Spanish jurisprudence, equity, and justice.

***

I confess to views on the matter, but hesitate to express them. One so often gets into the Serbonian bog of fallacy and folly when one speculates on the vices of government, and the demerits of national character; half of the political quackery extant seeks to be justified by dogmatic rubbish on racial traits. Sophists forget that no people can permanently have a government worse than their desert. Briefly, I think the Basques, Celts, Goths, Jews, and Moors who have had the run of the Peninsula have never been welded into one people. A succession of very strong princes in the sixteenth century established apparent unity and stability by a nice adjustment of conflicting interests and racial antipathies. They centralised government for one thing, and racial antipathy was masked for a century by the excitements of empire-making.

Then came the weaklings, on whom was grafted the vicious Bourbon; Government grew rotten at the core, and, of course, the corruption soon spread to the provinces. Stability was lost; brigandage and smuggling, the invariable *sequelæ* of bad government, became common; the out-put of great men failed. The nation that cannot find good leaders is damned and dies. The puzzle is all the more perplexing as the individual Spaniard is so fine a fellow; readers of that delightful book *Friends in Council* will remember how good an account the genial author gives of the social excellences of the Spaniard.

***

LITTORAL ANA.

Not long ago in China a youthful guest at a great man's table asked, *à propos* of music, "if Baitch was still composing?" There was the usual painful silence which follows a *gaucherie*, be it of manners or of ignorance. The host relieved it; with a merry twinkle in his eye, he remarked: "No, I fear he is decomposing."

***

This was excellent; but there is a sequel. The lad, either from modesty or courtiership, kept a discreet silence and let the joke go against him; but in truth, there is a contemporary composer of orchestral music called Bache, well-known to musicians. This gentleman is a full-blooded Briton, who disclaims connection with the family of the immortal Sebastian and pronounces his name "Batch."

ANON DE SCRIPT.

IN THE *HINTERLAND* OF SZECHUAN.

NOTES OF A JOURNEY TO THE BORDER OF TIBET.

IV.

Presently we arrive at a gateway that looks like the entrance to a temple or *yamên* and our escort shouts its command for us to enter. This we are loth to do, we prefer more open quarters than this seemed to promise. "Where are the hotels?" "In here, Sir, come on"—and the bridles are seized willy nilly and in we go. We were mistaken in our first estimate. This is neither temple nor *yamên*, but the entrance to the Chinese quarter—a narrow, filthy street built on, and only an annexe, to the monastery which lies directly above it. With almost boundless land about them to build in any shape they like, the Chinese have huddled themselves together in the worst possible fashion, so close and cramped indeed that the only windows that are any good are holes in the flat roof which are both windows and chimneys to these dark holes.

The whole town is out on the street, the priestly element outnumbering all others as well it may. Three thousand lamas occupy the monastery and all others

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

are but a handful to them. They bear a bad reputation and scorn the Chinese. The mandarins are not in it. One of them more brave than wise undertook to punish an offending lama whereupon the whole body ecclesiastic went out on the war path, hauled the offending Celestial from his official haunts and publicly whipped him and then demolished his *yamén!*

To overawe this militant crowd the Chinese Government keeps at least eighty soldiers *on the roll*, but fails to muster more than half in time of need.

"Don't you bargain for animals with the lamas," said the official servant, "I'll do that and you pay me or they'll cheat you." "Childlike and bland!" There was cheating all the same; who was cheated most it is not easy to say, we sufferer that is obvious, but we were "between the devil and the deep sea" and it is worth while being cheated a little in order to get away sharp.

Next morning saw us off again, glad to say adieu to Litang and its many possibilities.

Seven days from here to Batang. The cream of the journey as to scenery.

We crawled that afternoon up to 14,000 feet and slept in an atmosphere that had *teeth*. Then over a crest and down a rocky road to a most charming glen and so to Ramaya.

The men of Ramaya are said to be worse than those of Litang. They did not belie their reputation. We arrived at sundown and got a room in a private house. Sent for headman and asked for horses to take us to Batang. "Let the great men set leisurely." "But we are in haste and want to go to-morrow."

"It can't be done—rest a day," was the stolid reply with great projection of their tongues and *La-so* (it is good) with muted voice. It was a sight to rouse all one's risibility to see that row of kneeling figures, with tousled hair, protruding tongues, and fiery black eyes that flashed determination to have their own way.

"Look here now," yelled the doctor, "if you don't get those horses so that we can go off early to-morrow morning I'll go straight back to Litang and put the 'old man' on you and then you'll smart." Upon this being interpreted into Tibetan for them, they simply stuck out their tongues again, bobbed their heads and then shouted *La-so, la-so*—It's all right—and so it was for them. We had a holiday next day.

The men of Ramaya have a reputation for that kind of thing as we learned afterwards.

We spent our day in roaming about the straggling village and watching a group of boys and girls engaged in the autumn ploughing. A couple of *yak* are yoked up together by a heavy beam laid across their necks and the beam of the plough—a rude wooden fork guiltless of any iron—is extended in front to fit on to this yoke and the outfit is complete. A boy to guide the plow and a girl to lead the *yak* are required but the work of ploughing can hardly be called an art. "Grubbing" would be much more accurate as a descriptive term.

At Ramaya we had a series of small disasters. Not only were we delayed a day and so thrown out of our calculations, but here also I lost my factotum. He was a long, sturdy, pit-faced hybrid whom we picked up on the road, useful because of his linguistic abilities among the Tibetans. In the evening of our holiday he came with blood-curdling suggestions of the road ahead—no food, robbers in plenty, and so on; the moral was that he wanted a horse to ride and an advance to buy provisions—the latter chiefly strong leaf-tobacco, of which he consumed an abnormal quantity. At length everything seemed to be in a fair condition for an early start on the following morning and we were turning in, when the Tibetan 'gentleman' of the party put his head in at the door and enquired if the "old complete" was inside. 'No, have not seen him." "Ah! then I fear he has bolted!" A hurried jump to the door and vigorous yelling for him failed to produce my indispensable. "Look over the things and see what he has gone off with"—and we went through the baggage. "Rupees all right?" "Yes, they are here, but where's the tea?" and sure enough tea, salt, and a couple of bags were like the "old complete"—also missing.

We lay day down soothed with the reflection that it might have been worse.

Next morning had our crowning trial at Ramaya. We had brought along two riding animals of our own, but the long stages, insufficient food, and hard roads had completely knocked them out, so that we were fain to leave them here under the care of our Tibetan landlord who for a consideration undertook to look after them. But when it came to the point of leaving them "Mrs. Landlord" objected, as indeed she would seem to have a right to do, since the work of caring for them would fall on her. Refusing absolutely to let them stay she led them out after us, but mine I had decided to leave and so fell back on the right given in the man's consent to have them left. The Bishop did not care to press matters about his mule, but my poor animal was reduced to skin and bone and had no shoes; I therefore endeavoured to lead him back into the stable. I got no farther than the door, however, when the woman made a dash for the bridle, secured the reins, and flung herself between me and the pony, crying out to me in her foreign tongue a harangue no word of which did I understand. It's ill contesting with a woman and the man had discreetly disappeared, so I had no alternative but to release my hold on the beast, which she then led out and turned adrift with the Bishop's mule.

"Never mind," cried the Bishop, "come on and they'll run with our animals," but such a happy forecast was speedily dissipated by the beasts themselves who had other plans, and at once bolted off across the river where they had been turned out to graze the previous day, and scrambled up the mountain side. We looked more foolish and felt worse than ever. It would never do to leave them there in nobody's care, so a Tibetan was sent across to secure them which after a long tramp and delay he did and brought them to us.

By this time the whole village had shut its doors and was deserted in appearance. No one would offer to help us out. But judging from similar encounters with Chinese, and classing the Tibetans as neighbours and therefore not unlike, I concluded I might leave my pony and be at ease about him, so I pushed open the door of the stable and tied up my beast expecting him to be looked after on the basis of the overnight bargain, and on returning three weeks later there he was, not fat but rested.

The Bishop concluded to take his mule on, which thereby incurred for him an extra expense and the beast a ten days' tramp over very difficult roads.

This little encounter delayed us upwards of two hours, but the caravan was on ahead. We therefore set out speedily, made the summit of the low pass above Ramaya, and came up with them in a grassy plain on the other side, a place we found covered with tents and herds a few weeks later.

This day's journey stands out as the banner day of the whole trip for scenery and general comfort in going. Two days' journey was rolled into one. We all had fresh animals, and as we crossed the succeeding spurs of the range flanking the road to the north, there was an ever-changing panorama of loveliness. One giant snow peak, Mount Neuda, twenty thousand feet, kept in sight all day—our road winding around its extended foot. About midday we halted at the little village of Neuda and rested the animals for an hour.

The afternoon's journey surpassed in beauty that of the morning. Animals and men alike felt the exhilaration. Numerous sites for summer resorts were passed, with a combination of mountain, river, and vale, the snowy summit of Neuda always there to add the supreme touch, while forests and pastures were combined in a manner to suggest something more than the undirected course of Nature.

At length as night was drawing down, and the cold wind was making itself intrusive we came upon the bare little hamlet of Rat'i, on a wind-swept eminence overlooking a gloomy valley, which the Tibetans say is the dwelling place of numerous spirits who, on the whole, are malevolent, though they may treat a good person agreeably.

From Rat'i the road ascends by a dreary winding path to a bleak summit, on the farther side of which lies a secluded valley that might well beguile the fancies of a more fastidious being than a Tibetan.

The descent is very steep through a forest of gigantic firs which descends to the edge of the grassy sward. On the floor of the valley, which is level enough for a cricket pitch and vast enough for giants to play, is an *Obo* erected to the spirits and everywhere are signs of the religious value set by the Tibetans on this quiet, restful spot. At the farther side is a clear river leaping along the foot of an overwhelming cliff, the size of which completely dwarfs everything beside it. The river looks puny, the trees like Christmas toys, while men and beasts are nowhere. The road here takes a sharp turn to the right parallel with the face of the cliff and all one's faculties are engaged by the beauties of the scene.

On our return we came along this valley with a large company of horsemen, who had been haying on the mountains beyond the next hamlet, and they galloped here and there making the weirdest cries with their strange garments flapping in the wind. It was easy to imagine it to be a party of Indians in their mountain home in America, so nearly did the whole correspond to well-known descriptions of the Red men.

This night we slept at Daso and planned to reach Batang next day. From Daso the way is up to the summit of Trahlaka (16,568) and then down for about twenty-five miles into Batang.

Anything more desolate than the top of the pass it would be difficult to expect. Besides a covey of grouse and immense flocks of rooks and jack daws, there was not a living creature in the dreary solitude. Trees, shrubs, and even mountain flowers were left behind, and one big panorama of stones and rock-ribbed summit was left. The descent to Batang is a pretty hard road. It winds on mile after mile, while the sun grows fiercer and the pack beasts more tired. At one place we passed four lamas immersed in a natural bath of hot mineral water, while on the bank beside them sat the fifth with a fire going and the indispensable tea boiling, ready for the bathers' use, when the bath was finished. Lower down we passed a second natural bath-house occupied by a Tibetan magnate who had his tent erected beside it and everything in clean, inviting style. But there was no welcome for the foreigners. The road still ran downward till it seemed to lose itself among the narrowing gorges and one was fain to ask where is the plain of Batang?

At length emerging from the gorge and turning to the left, almost due south, the plain lies before one—green and gold in the midday glare, beautiful in its harvest dress, as compared with the nakedness of the road we had just traversed.

Buckwheat and millet filled the tiny patchwork fields through which the road ran on to the little town. Batang will be more than disappointing to those who have been led to expect a town in the general use of that word. It is a loosely-built

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

village, without any general plan. The *adobe* houses are placed each one according to the will of its owner with no regard to the public convenience.

Of trade there appears to be none. A quiet agricultural air not to say stagnation is over the whole place. About a mile to the further side of the town is the lamasery, a large rambling building or aggregation of buildings enclosed by a high wall pierced by double doors on two sides. A promenade, shaded by trees, runs round the outside and forms the daily exercising ground of the monks, some of whom were always parading round the walls in the prescribed order from left to right—the reverse way would bring disaster—counting their beads and muttering the sacred syllables.

There are about fifteen hundred members of the brotherhood in the lamasery and a sorrier-looking crowd it would be hard to find. Owing to fear or a general sullenness hardly one of them would speak to us.

Long before we reached the monastery gates, they were angrily snapped together and we could get—no not so much as a peep inside.

This was done on three succeeding days, and the last time, a crowd of sharelings was set on us to hoot, yell, and call sundry names after us; hence we did not essay the lamas' retreat any more.

(To be continued.)

[All Rights Reserved.]

THE GREAT NORTH-WEST AND KLONDYKE,

BY

E. B. OSBORN, B.A.

V.

THE NORTH-WEST OF TO-DAY.

In few of the new countries of the world have the evils resulting from past mistakes, political or economic, proved such obstacles to industrial progress as in the North-West. The bursting of the Prairie Bubble of 1881-2, the issue of transferable scrip to the half-breeds, the payment of huge Government subsidies to railway companies in land instead of cash—for all these blunders a penalty has been imposed. The financial catastrophe, which followed the epidemic of land-fever, resulted in the withdrawal from settlement of millions of acres of the choicest lands (much of which is still patiently held by speculators, who hope to get their money back after many years), and scared away innumerable immigrants and a vast amount of what may be called immigrant capital. The failure to make the Half-breeds' scrip inalienable was directly the cause of the rebellion of 1885, which, though it drew the attention of the world to the North-West, was at best a left-handed sort of advertisement; moreover, even now, the old Half-breeds' Reserves—the choicest lands in Manitoba—are mostly held by speculators, who bought them in the boom years from those who, morally speaking, stole them a decade before. As for the handing over by the Dominion Government of nearly half the acreage of the "Fertile Belt" to the Canadian Pacific, Hudson's Bay, and other transportation and trading companies—that policy, though from the imperial point of view it may be largely justified, has probably done more to retard the growth of "Greater Canada" than any and every other blunder of Canada's politicians. At the time when Sir John Macdonald introduced the Imperial note into Canadian politics it seemed more than probable that the United States would succeed in "Americanising" the North-West. Thus in a report by a committee of the U.S. Senate on Pacific railways published in 1869 it was said:—"The opening by us first of a North Pacific railroad seals the destiny of the British possessions west of the 91st meridian. They will become so Americanised in interests and feelings that they will be in effect severed from the new Dominion, and the question of their annexation will be but a question of time." So the statesmen of the Union hoped, and so feared Sir John Macdonald, the keenest living spectator of the affairs of that Republic. Confederation and its corollary—a Trans-continental Railway—seemed to him an immediate necessity; and, happy in his opportunity, happier still in his personality, he succeeded in persuading even his opponents to take the same view. And besides the desire to preserve the North-West to the Empire another idea constrained him and (through him) nine out of every ten Canadians of whatsoever party. He saw that the success of the Union was ultimately due to the astonishing growth of the Western and Pacific States, and he foresaw that the farmlands of Manitoba and the mining camps of British Columbia (to say nothing of the fertile wilderness between), would provide employment for the manufacturing and shipping industries of the east as well as a field wherein a man might invest his capital or, if he had no money, his own manhood. And though for many years confederation was rather a machine than an organism (inter-Provincial disputes playing too prominent a part in politics for the national feeling to grow quickly), and his visions of a great western market for Eastern products (and *vice versâ* a great Eastern market for Western produce) were regarded as a species of political mirage, at last the machine is finding a spirit of life, and day by day it becomes clearer that the mirage was after all the reflection of a prosperity that really existed—only further away in the future, than the "Fathers of Confederation" saw it.

A NECESSARY EVIL.

But a necessary evil is none the less an evil. Though it was arranged that the lands held by the companies should be sold at a uniform price (three dollars an acre as a rule, though it is always possible to buy a whole section at something over two dollars), yet it was not to be expected that immigrants would make a practice of purchasing lands. The man who emigrates from the Eastern provinces or from Europe is usually young and without means (if it were not so he would not leave home), and hardly one in a hundred of those who have settled in the North-West during the four years the writer has known it personally, would have been able to buy a farm. The result is that in nearly every part of the country the land belonging to the companies, or sold by them to speculators (out of 36 sections in a Township, the odd-numbered 18 are invariably the property of some railway or other corporation, only the other 18 being open to free settlement) remains unsold and unused; so that farms appear small oases of cultivation in a wilderness of virgin prairie; neighbours live so far apart that no one has time to be neighbourly; settlements outside the towns and villages on the railways are small and straggling; co-operation for the establishment of churches, schools, creameries, cheese-factories, etc., and for the bettering of roads is oftener than not impossible; and the necessity of hauling grain to market over long distances cuts down the profit of the year's work to a very great degree. This does not now apply so much to Manitoba (where the farmers are often big enough men to buy the land adjacent to their homesteads), as to the North-West territories; but even there the withdrawal of land from free settlement is still an obvious evil—so obvious, indeed, as to be often overlooked, not only by travellers, but also by residents. What it really amounts to is, the Territories may be illustrated by the following few facts about the settlement in which the writer at present resides. The area of that district—triangular in form and separated from others in Saskatchewan by two rivers and a belt of pine woods—is more than 100 square miles; of which area a third—say 20,000 acres—is good farm land. There are only thirty-five "yards" to be threshed out, and this year's crop—a good one—amounted to between 13,000 and 14,000 bushels of all sorts of grain. The average distance of a farm from the nearest market is 30 miles, and fifty bushels of wheat forms the maximum load for a "team," or pair of horses, and bob-sleighs. At present prices that amount of wheat is worth 30 dollars—of which amount about 11 dollars may be taken as net profit. Now it takes two days to market the wheat and bring back its value in money or supplies—that being so, how much does the farmer who makes that journey in winter earn over and above his wages? It is certain that but for the profit on cattle (which can carry themselves to market and eat the railway company's hay without asking to pay rent) there would be nobody farming that district. And it is equally certain that but for the fact that many thousand of fat acres within easy reach of town are held by the railway company or by speculators, nobody would ever have farmed there at all—at least not until those reserves had been filled up.

Hundreds of similar instances could be given. For, great as is the area of the North-West, only a small and well-defined part of it—the "Fertile Belt," which is a ribbon of territory of varying breadth including the valleys of the Assiniboine and Red River, the valley of the two branches of the "blue" Saskatchewan, and most of Alberta—possesses the soil and climate suitable for raising the staple cereals. And of the Fertile Belt only a small portion has railway communication within reasonable distance, and is, therefore, ready for settlement at present. And of that small portion half—and that half scattered here and there and everywhere—is practically reserved.

Another evil growth from the same root is the system (now condemned by most North-Western authorities, who are beginning to see that "the best immigration agent is a contented settler") of advertisement by means of pamphlet. Most people must have seen the sort of thing—a neat little book with a gaudy cover, and full inside of glowing testimonies to the phenomenal fertility of the country. If the people responsible for the issue and circulation of these pamphlets had ever seen them read and heard them discussed by a knot of experienced English farmers, the futility of the system would have been recognised at once. And doubt a few have been brought No North-West by their means; to the many men have been kept away certainly these pamphlets were circulated. Though Government auspices, yet under their existence is primarily due to the land to sell, companies with to bring in immigrants naturally anxious spend. These customers with money to numbers of companies, employing large practically compulsion, and in former years vote as they thought fit, had extraordinary influence with the Government and used this influence to help on their business. Thus the pamphlet system seems to have originated with the C.P.R.; of which powerful Company it used to be said: "The Cabinet Ministers ride to Ottawa on the C.P.R. and when they are there the C.P.R. rides on them." Even now the companies are in the habit of engineering booms on a small scale in order to sell their lands. Thus in journeying to the Saskatchewan country in the spring of 1895, the writer and two friends were offered free passes to the Edmonton district, which was just then being boomed by the C.P.R., and advertised in special pamphlets. The C.P.R. land agents had no interest in Prince Albert (where the land is owned by

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

another company) and said as much, refusing to give any information about the Saskatchewan country. After all the Edmonton district is as good as most and not many suffered loss when the bottom fell out of the boomlet, while the C.P.R. sold thousands of acres at prices as high as 15 dollars an acre. But previous jobs of this kind, such as the attempts to obtain settlers for portions of Western Manitoba and Eastern Assiniboia, which suffer from a lack of rainfall and are now admitted to form part of an "Arid Region" of the North-West—have inflicted great loss on large numbers of small capitalists.

THE MANITOBA FARMER COMPARED.

In the eighties farming in Manitoba was just a gamble in wheat; that is to say, the average farmer rushed in a large crop of wheat and then sat down and prayed for suitable weather, high prices, and a "bonanza crop." Dairy work, stock breeding, etc., were entirely neglected; so that butter, bacon, cheese and so forth were actually imported from the East. A course of low prices in the world's markets, two or three bad seasons, and the inability of even the rich prairie soil to stand many consecutive years of wheat cropping has put an end to this state of things so that nowadays the successful Manitoban generally practises "mixed farming" with a natural and not unwise tendency to rely on his wheat fields as a main source of profit. The ordinary Manitoba farmer compares not unfavourably with the better of his rivals in Ontario and the United States, and though he is not so well educated in the niceties of his profession as the British agriculturist he can make money—*for he has no rent to pay!* Moreover, though he has to pay a high price for labour (the ordinary wages paid for skilled "help" may be taken as 15 dollars a month with board and lodging, worth another 10 dollars) he gets for his money, not a mere *farm-hand* like the "right good turnut-hower" of the old English song, but a man with a mind who can turn his hand to almost any kind of work and be trusted to do it to the best of his ability, even when his employer is not watching. The all-round superiority of the North-Western "hired man" to his compeer in the Middle and Western States (who is already obliged to work 15 or 16 hours a day for as many dollars a month and is rapidly falling to the status of the European farm hand) is a fact that has been much noticed of late and has been variously explained. In the American West—the "mortgaged West," as it was so often called during the last Presidential election—not only are there no longer any "free homesteads" left, but the price of unimproved land is so high, averaging twice that of very similar land across the boundary line, that the settler, who wishes to make a farm, must have a fair amount of capital and can hope for only a small interest on his investment. This state of things is, in the main, a result of the system of aiding railway extension by State land-grants—a system pushed to such extremes that in several States the railway companies held at one time or other a monopoly of the soil—followed by innumerable "land booms," many of them much greater affairs and more disastrous in their consequences than any that have occurred above the Line. Various other evils of first-rate importance and peculiar to the American West—the universal corruption of local and State politics owing to the universal "spoils system," the many failures of "National" and "Popular" Banks, due to unsound banking methods, the commercial immorality of the business classes in general and in particular of the "storekeeper at the cross-roads" who supplies the farmer with necessities on the security of his next harvest, and the tardy recognition of the periodic climate of many vast districts, where the lack of rainfall has had to be supplemented by great schemes of irrigation often only partially successful—have also helped to impoverish the farmer of the Western States and to reduce him and with him, of course, his hired dependent to their position of inferiority to the settlers in Manitoba and the North-West. One very significant fact, which should be noticed, but is generally overlooked by travellers through North America, is that, whereas as often as not the "hired man" in the Western States is married and the father of a family, in the Canadian North-West he is almost invariably a bachelor. The latter knows that before the time comes for him to "hitch up alongside of his best gal" (to use a piece of Nor'-Western slang) he will have saved enough to take up and start work on a quarter section of Government land (paying only a registration fee of 10 dollars for that privilege) and settle down on his own farm. The former, on the other hand, can have no such certain hope; and it is too often his fate to work all his days on another man's land, while his wife serves in another man's house.

Southern Alberta—aforetime the favourite pasturage of the buffalo, and now one of the best ranching countries in the world—is, next to Manitoba, the most highly developed part of the North-West. In the early eighties, when this corner of the Great Plains began to be settled by cattlemen from Montana (who saw that the climate was so mild that stock could be allowed to run at large all winter, and that the prairie grasses gradually cured by the autumn chinooks are as good feed for cattle as they were for buffalo), the ranchers had very crude ideas of their business—little or no attention being paid to the breeding of good cattle or horses, dairy-work being utterly neglected, and the breaking-in of horses being entrusted to rough and ignorant "broncho-busters." The stress of a world-wide competition and the progress of education in all matters pertaining to agriculture have brought about the adoption of more scientific methods, besides which the rancher's business has received material benefit from the vigorous "Agricultural policy" of the Dominion Government during the last few years—such measures as the Irrigation Act of 1894, more than 150,000 acres within the "Arid Region," mentioned above, have received irrigation so that in numerous cases the rancher, who had to import the grain he required from Manitoba, now raises it for himself or saves the freight by purchasing it near at hand; and the cold storage system, when finally complete, will remove the effects of the blow given to his industry by the exclusion from Great Britain of Canadian cattle.

HARD FACTS.

The reader, who thinks or has thought of emigrating, should now be able to strike a balance of the advantages and disadvantages of the agricultural North-West as a field for the investment of himself, and whatever capital he may possess. Presumably he knows the value of himself better than the writer, so that it may be presumption on the latter's part to say anything about that part—*always the more important*—of the investment. But it must be laid down as a rule (without exceptions) that the really successful settler is not only able-bodied but also able-minded; so that young gentlemen who have failed to pass examinations need not think that fact is a title to success! And another rule (with few exceptions in the writer's experience) is that nobody should come out after his thirtieth birthday; for at that age man lacks time, even if he has the faculty, to learn the ways and customs of a new country. Given youth and a sound mind in a sound body—the would-be emigrant to the North-West has what experience proves to be worth more than almost any amount of money in hand. Indeed the possession of capital—especially if it takes the form of a "remittance" or yearly allowance given by parents—is a dangerous thing, and has more often than not led to failure, particularly with young fellows, who have been brought up in comfortable middle-class homes. The phenomenon is easily explained. There are no conventions in a new country—in Nor'-Western parlance "there's nobody holding you"—and with those newly released from convention liberty is apt to become licence, unless hard work all the time is required.

As regards openings other than agricultural—there are practically none for the new arrival. "Canada for the Canadians" is a rule of conduct in the case of all public appointments; and the open professions—especially law—are terribly over-crowded. Clerks and other mechanical brain-workers are not wanted anywhere. And it would be the height of folly for a newcomer (even with a sound commercial training) who has not spent some years in the country to invest himself and his money in any line of business from politics (a profession in the North-West, worse luck!) down to brick-making.

There remains agriculture in all its branches, and the immigrant, whether he has much or little capital, will do well to work two or three years on other men's farms before starting on his own account. A training at a Colonial College does a young man no harm, but it is a question whether it is worth the time and money. The writer is inclined to think that a farm in some colony is the best sort of Colonial College—for the professors there ask no fees for their vigorous and practical lectures and boating of any sort is quite impossible. If the would-be North-Western farmer must go to college, why not send him to an agricultural college in Canada? The expense will be smaller and the learning acquired more to the point; and the successful student will obtain a diploma which may enable him to obtain such berths as that of manager to a Government "creamery"—berths which are never given to men trained in the Mother Country, and are well worth having for a time.

LORD BERESFORD'S VISIT.

MEDITATIONS OF MARTIN DOOLEY, THE CHICAGO JOURNAL'S PHILOSOPHER, ON THE MISSION OF THE DISTINGUISHED ENGLISH ADMIRAL.

"I see be th' pa-apers," said Mr. Dooley, "that Lord Char-les Beresford is in our mist, as Hogan says."

"An' who th' divvle's he?" asked Mr. Hennessy.

"He's a Watherford man," said Mr. Dooley. "I knowed his father well—a markess he thrade an' a fine man. Char-les wint to sea early, but he's now in th' plastherin' business—cementin' th' 'lieance iv th' United States an' England. I'll thank ye to laugh at me joke, Misther Hinnissy, an' not be standin' there lookin' like a Chinnyman in a sthreet-car."

"I don't know what ye mean," said Mr. Hennessy, softly.

"Lord Char-les Beresford is a sort iv advance-agent iv th' White Man's Burden Thrajeedy Company—two little Evas, four hundhred millyon Topsies, six hundhred millyon Uncle Toms. He's billin' th' country fr th' threeyumphal tour iv th' Monsther Aggregation. Nawthin' can stop it. Blood is thicker than wather, an' together, ar-rm-in-ar-rm, we'll spread th' light iv civilisation fr'm wan ind iv th' wurruld to th' other, no matther what you an' Schwartzmeister say, Hinnissy.

"Be hivins, I like th' way me kinsmen acrost th' sea, as th' pa-apers say, threat us. 'Ye whelps,' says Lord Char-les Beresford an' Roodyard Kipling an' Tiddy Rosenfelt an' th' other Anglo Saxons.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

'Foolish an' frivolous people, cheap but thrue-hearted an' insincere cousins,' they says. 'Tis little ye know about annything. Ye ar-re a disgrace to humanity. Ye love th' dollar better than ye love annything but two dollars. Ye ar-re savage but inthrestin'. Ye misname our titles. Ye use th' crool Krag-Jorgensen instead iv th' ca'm 'an penthratin' Lee-Metford. Ye kiss ye're eeroes an' give thim wurruk to do; we smash in their hats an' ilivate thim to th' peerage. Ye have destroyed our langunge. Ye ar-re rapidly convartin' our ancesthral palaces into dwellin' houses. Ye're morals are loose, ye're dhrinks ar-re enervatin' but pleasant, an' ye talk through ye're noses. Ye ar re mussy at th' table, an' ye have no religion. But ye ar-re whelps iv th' ol' line. Those iv ye that ar-re not our brothers-in-law we welcome as brothers. Ye annoy us so much ye must be mimbers iv our own fam'ly. Th' same people that is washed occasionally be th' Mississippi as it rowls majistic along th' impeeryal States iv Oheeho an' Duluth, wathrin' th' fertyle plains iv Wyoming an' Mattsachoosetts, is to be found arnin' a livin' on th' short but far more dirtier Thames. We have th' same lithrachoor. Ye r-read our Shakespeare so we can't undherstand it, an' we r-read ye're aspirin' authors—Poe, and Lowell, and O'l Sleuth the Dutective. We ar're not on-familyar with ye're inthrestin' history. We ar-re as pr-roud as ye ar-re iv th' achievemints iv Gin'ral Shafter an' Gin'ral Coxey. Ye're embassadors have always been kindly received, an' whether they taught us how to dhraw to a busted flush, or wept on our collars, or recited original pothry to us, we had a brotherly feelin' for thim that med us say: "Poor fellows, thy're doin' th' best they can." 'So,' says they, come to our ar-rms an' together we'll go out an' conquer th' wurruld.'

"An' we're goin' to do it, Hinnissy. Th' rayception that this here sintimint has rayceived from ivry wan that has a son in colledge is almost tumultchuse. We feel like a long-lost brother that's been settin' outside in th' cold fr a week an' is now sat in to supper—an' sarched at th' dure f'r deadly weepins. We'll have to set up straight an mind our manners. No tuckin' our napkins down our throats, or dhrinkin' out iv th' saucer, or kickin' our boots off undher th' table. No r-eachin' f'r annything, but 'Eah, will ye kindly pass th' Ph-lippeens?' or 'No, thank ye, pah, help ye' ersilf first.'

"An' will we stay in? Faith I dinnaw. We feel kindly to each other, but it looks to me like th' first up in th' mornin' th' first away with the' valu'bles,"

"I'll niver come in," protested Mr. Hennessy, stoutly.

"No more ye will, ye rebelyus omadhan," said Mr. Dooley. "An' 'twas thinkin' iv you an' th' likes iv you an' Schwartsmeister an' th' likes iv him that med me wondher. If th' 'lisance got into a war with Garmany an' some wan was to start a rough-an'-tumble in Ireland about iliction time I wondher wud th' cemint hold!"—*Peter Dunne in Chicago Journal.*

News is Food for Active Minds, especially in these days of quick communication, when we are enabled within a few hours to know what is taking place at the other end of the world. The merits of Holloway's Pills and Ointment, which have been familiar for over half a century amongst all civilised people, have been still more widely spread owing to these facilities. To the natives in the uttermost parts of India, Africa, Australia, and, indeed, to the whole human family, these remedies have been amongst the most precious gifts of civilisation. They cure disease and relieve the most acute pain. In cases of fever, ague, and liver and stomach complaints they are unequalled, whilst for wounds bruises, sores, etc., they are the best known remedies.

16oc-99e 234 17th Oct., 1898.

THE NEW *AMERICAN BOY.*

(From a Manila paper.)

PLANS FOR THE SHIP SUBMITTED TO THE NAVY DEPARTMENT.

The proposal to build a warship to be called the *American Boy*, the money to be expended in the project to be raised by popular subscription among the boys in the various cities of the United States, has proceeded so far that the money is not only largely in hand, but the plans for the battleship have been drawn up, and are now in the hands of the Navy Department officials for approval. But, beside the sentimental interest which naturally attaches to the craze through the manner of its presentation to the United States navy, the plans are worthy of special attention because of the fact that they provide for the largest battleship, bar none, in the world.

The length of the *American Boy*, according to the plans, is 1,000 feet, or nearly three times the length of the *Illinois* or *Kentucky*. Its breadth is about one-fifth of its length, or 207 feet 4 inches. Its displacement is 48,410 tons, while its propelling force is supplied by eight turbine screws, expected to develop a speed of forty knots an hour.

The *American Boy* is a double-turreted seagoing battleship of the first-class. Her guns will be the most powerful known to man. The first battery will include four monster 15-inch guns, twelve 12-inch, and four 10-inch ones. All of them, of course, are breech-loading rifles. The secondary battery consists of two 12-inch dynamite guns, and twenty 12-inch mortars. Still a third group of cannon, called the "tertiary battery," is composed of the following formidable array. Twenty-four 8-inch guns, eight 6-inch guns, four 4-inch rapid-fire guns, 100 6-pounders, fifty 4-pounders, eight tubes for discharge of aerial torpedoes, eight tubes for submarine torpedoes, forty 1-pounders, and sixteen Gatling guns. There will also be a monster ram which, if this gigantic ship ever gets at close quarters with an enemy, would shear open a ship like the *Illinois* as easily as the *Illinois* herself could stave in the plates of a passenger steamer. The ram of the *American Boy* is, perhaps, the most powerful offensive weapon, exclusive of electrical contrivances, ever designed. Imagine a steel cold chisel of enormous proportions backed by a mass of iron weighing 48,410 tons, and imagine this whole mass hurling itself across the sea at the speed of an express train. No human device, except such another ship as the *American Boy*, could stand for an instant against so terrible an impact. Should two such ships crash together at full speed there would be such a collision as the imagination is unable to forecast.

The armour belt of the *American Boy* will be thirty-six inches thick, backed by eight feet of asbestos felt. The turret armour will be forty-four inches. There will be two armoured decks, one above the other, the upper carrying five inches of steel, the lower eight inches.

The list of striking things supplemental to the general work of destruction is amazing. It includes a twenty-inch telescope, two war balloons, two hydraulic dredgers rigged at the prow for clearing obstructed channels, two derricks that operate supplies, moving guns and the like; oil sufficient to quiet a high sea and keep it still during thirty days; a submerged guard against mines and torpedoes; 25,000 tons of smokeless coal; a gymnasium in the cabin as large as a small auditorium; finally, 170 officers and 2,500 men. The cost of the monster ship will be $20,000,000.

The range of the great guns of the *American Boy* will be thirteen miles, and they can be fired at that distance with perfect accuracy. Taken altogether, it is quite certain that no human invention of destruction can compare for a moment with the *American Boy*.

[This last sentence certainly has the ring of truth in it.—Ed.]

THE LARGEST RAILWAY STATION IN THE WORLD.

OPENING OF THE BOSTON SOUTH TERMINAL.

The new South Union Station of the Boston Terminal Company, which has been building during the last two years for the use of all the railroads entering Boston from the south, was opened for the service of the Old Colony and New England Companies on the first day of this year, after having been "dedicated" the previous Friday by Mayor Quincy and President C. P. Clark, of the New York, New Haven, and Hartford Railroad. The scheme was first set on foot in February 1896, and the Boston Terminal Company, consisting of representatives of the different railroads who will use the station, was incorporated for the purpose of carrying it out by an Act of the General Court, passed on the 9th of June 1896. The Railroad Commissioners approved the plans on the 4th of January 1897, and the contract for the main structures was let on the 7th of April 1897.

SIZE OF THE NEW STATION.

When fully completed, the new station will undoubtedly be the largest in the world, beating even the Union Station, St. Louis, though that has 31 platforms, as compared with Boston's 28 platforms and a basement "loop." The building, shed, and yards immediately connected occupy 35 acres of land, and the roof of the shed alone covers 14½. In London the nine most important stations, if placed together, would occupy 93 acres, of which Liverpool Street takes 22, Waterloo 16½, and King's Cross 16. The last-named has the largest roof of any London station, covering 9 acres. Seeing that the Boston station is intended to accommodate the traffic of at least three separate Companies, and to take the place of four older stations, it is not very much out of proportion that its acreage should be about three times the average acreage of our London *termini*. To outward view the size of this Boston giant does not appear to impress the American beholder as much as that of Broad Street Station, Philadelphia. It is only by some such plan as is given in the *Railway Age*, showing that the Boston Station area will easily include the sites of twenty-four prominent Boston buildings, that the real magnitude of the structure can be brought home.

A 4,000 TRAIN POWER STATION.

But the compactness and the almost unlimited capacity of the Boston terminal for dealing with traffic, present and to come, are what will make this station famous. It is expected to provide for the coming and going of 4,000 trains daily. Even after making all due allowances for different conditions, our Liverpool Street's daily average of 1,080 trains is a sharp contrast, but Liverpool Street's capacity is probably not yet fully "extended." Four thousand trains a day cannot be handled without some arrangements very different to any which our passenger *termini* have over here. The problem has been solved at Boston by making the station double-decked—a device which has been more than once adopted in this country for large goods depôts. This, in the case of the American terminal, enables the upper or main floors to be used entirely for the main or long distance passenger traffic, and the basement below to be given up exclusively to the suburban traffic.

THE BASEMENT LOOP.

But apart from the great convenience in working which the separation entails, there

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

are features peculiar to each floor which are quite unknown in England. In the basement an ingenious arrangement of "loop tracks" has been employed.

These tracks are two in number, and connect with the main tracks at points about one-half mile from the station, the connecting curves and grade being suited to the light rolling stock required for suburban business. The radius and head room of the loop tracks are sufficient for the use of such cars as are now run on suburban trains, or such improved equipment as may be devised. They enter the station at one side of the steam tracks and at a grade about 17 feet beneath them, and, as they enter they spread, so that there is a large platform between the tracks. This central platform lies immediately below the "midway" on the main floor, and is connected with it and with the main waiting room by stairs. It is designed to be the "loading," or, as we should say, departure platform, and is the right platform for all trains. The unloading is designed to be done on the outside platforms. The total platform area on this floor is large enough to allow the assembling of about 25,000 people at one time.

These platforms are long enough to accommodate fourteen trains of three cars each, seven on each track, and if it becomes necessary to send out one train a minute it can be done. By the employment of electricity for all suburban business, a low roof for the basement, and consequent great saving of space have become possible —which could not have been the case if steam locomotives with their attendant smoke were in vogue.

SEPARATE LUGGAGE PLATFORMS.

On the main floor above there will be the ordinary steam tracks for the main line traffic—"stub-tracks" as the Americans call them—terminating at buffer stops. The platforms for their accommodation will number 28, and will be 5 feet higher than the pavement outside. But the most commendable novelty on this floor is the use of separate platforms for baggage and passengers. They are arranged in pairs, with a passenger platform to each pair, and between the pairs are seven platforms devoted exclusively to the trucking of baggage, and express matter, which serve 14 tracks. Such separation, however, is not an entirely new thing, for the Great Eastern Company has quite as good an arrangement at Liverpool Street for keeping parcels traffic separate from passenger. The tracks will hold about 350 passenger cars when completely filled, and, aided by the loop tracks below, will provide for an almost unlimited expansion of passenger traffic.

THE ETCETERAS—"CRIBS AND CRADLES."

Other noticeable features are the two large rooms, for outward and inward baggage respectively, on opposite sides of the main floor, and running parallel to the tracks, the former 562 feet long, and the latter 525. The general waiting-room with its length of 225 feet, entered close at the left of the main entrance, is the more convenient because it has sixteen openings on to the ticket offices, which in turn open on to the midway facing the ends of the platforms. The entrance itself is a thoroughfare 92 feet wide.

At the respective ends of the general waiting-room are the smoking-room and the women's-room. The latter is most comfortably furnished with rocking chairs, easy chairs, lounges, and tables, and with cribs and cradles for the children. White-capped matrons are also in attendance. This description makes a vivid contrast to the dingy "females in attendance," and the dreary appointments at the average English waiting-room.

Above the main floor are three storeys more. On the second storey are rooms for the employees, and also the offices of the Boston Terminal Company. The entire third storey is occupied by the Boston and Albany Railroad, and the fourth and fifth storeys by the New York, New Haven, and Hartford. The cost of the station is £2,800,000.—*Transport.*

LATE TELEGRAMS.

(Special to the "Hongkong Telegraph.")

Manila, 22nd March.

THE WAR IN THE PHILIPPINES.

MR. COGAN SAFE.

The *Plover* has arrived from Cebu having rescued Mr. Cogan from the Filipinos. The *Plover* had some trouble with the natives of Leyte which almost culminated in a fight.

MORE RESISTANCE.

The natives of the island of Samar are preparing to resist the Americans.

FURTHER REINFORCEMENTS.

The transport *Sherman* has arrived.

23rd March.

DESPERATE FIGHTING NEAR ILOILO.

The Filipinos made a determined attack on Jaro, a suburb of Iloilo, on the 16th inst., with an overwhelming force; a desperate fight ensued, but they were repulsed.

ESTIMATED LOSSES.

The Filipinos had 200 killed and the Americans had one man killed and fifteen wounded.

(Special to the Hongkong Telegraph.)

Manila, 27th March.

FURTHER FIGHTING.

American advance continued during yesterday. Filipinos made determined opposition and burnt Malabon, Polo escaped before corall (*sic*) effected.

FILIPINOS DESPERATE.

The Filipinos fought desperately but could not prevent Americans passing Meycamayan, midway to Malolos.

GENERAL KILLED.

General Egbert and a German Prince named Prince Lowenstein, who was accompanying the Americans, were killed. The Americans lost 22 killed and 167 wounded.

AMERICA AND THE PHILIPPINES.

THE SITUATION IN THE SOUTHERN ISLANDS.

(Special Telegrams from the China Mail's Own Correspondent.)

Iloilo, 26th March.

The situation in the southern islands of the Philippines is very satisfactory.

In the island of Negros the natives have settled down to their peaceful avocations, a constitution having been drafted on American lines.

28th March.

Yesterday, another effort was made by a British resident to reach the insurgent leaders in the Southern islands and arrange unofficially a settlement of affairs.

He was well received by the Filipinos, but from a conversation with the natives they appeared to be ignorant of what was transpiring in the North. The Tagalog emissaries sent down here by Aguinaldo hold sway over the natives.

H.M.S. *Pigmy* is starting on a cruise amongst the islands to ascertain the safety of the isolated Britishers.

[TELEGRAMS RECEIVED AT THE LEGATION OF FRANCE IN TOKIO.]

Saigon, 20th March.

FRANCE'S SEA POWER.

During the discussion on the French Naval Budget in the Chamber of Deputies, the Minister of Marine, M. Lockroy, declared that the state of the fleet was excellent, and said that most of the squadrons in distant waters had been improved, and that the fortified naval bases had been commenced. He eulogised the submarine vessels, and announced that the *Gustave Zédé* is now provided with vision apparatus, which enables her to approach an adversary at will.

21st March.

ANGLO-FRENCH RELATIONS.

It is affirmed that the Franco-English negotiations have been concluded in a sense satisfactory to French interests.—*Japan Mail.*

The following telegrams are from our exchanges:—

Saigon, 15th March.

President Loubet has announced the pardon of 250 persons condemned to fines in connection with the demonstrations of February.

M. de Freycinet, Minister of War, will soon communicate to the Court of Cassation the secret portfolio in the Dreyfus affair.

Lieut.-Colonel Picquart has been handed over to civil justice.

Tokio, 17th March.

Mr. Ozaki, the President of the Central Board of Tea Guilds, is taking steps to present a memorial asking that negotiations should be entered upon with the Canadian Government against the imposition of the tax on tea proposed in Canada.

According to the latest news from North China, Russia seems to be hurrying forward the works of defence at Port Arthur with great energy. A considerable number of coolies are employed, who work day and night. It is arranged to repair all the existing forts there and construct new forts along the coast between Port Arthur and Talienwan.

Nothing seems to be definitely decided about the disposal of the Philippines. It is stated that the United States proposes to accede to a part of Aguinaldo's demand and place the islands under the joint protection of Great Britain, Japan, and America, and that negotiations are in progress between the three Powers (?).

Seoul, 17th March.

M. Pavloff, the Russian Minister at Seoul, has addressed an official note to the Corean Foreign Office, requesting that the negotiations between the Corean Government and a Russian subject regarding the whaling industry should be settled in three days. The Russian Minister added that otherwise he would see the Emperor in person and represent the matter to the Throne. It appears that the draft of agreement was made three weeks ago, and the negotiations were to be settled in five days.

Tokio, 18th March.

Kang Yü-wei and other Chinese refugees will shortly proceed to America and England. Count Okuma is reported to have raised *yen* 7,000 for their travelling expenses.

Seoul, 18th March.

The opposition of the Council to the grant of a lease of the whaling stations demanded by Russia is very strong, rendering any arrangement very difficult. The Russian Minister has communicated his intention to submit the matter to the judgment of the Emperor.

Tokio, 19th March.

In the past few days the Superintendent-General of the Metropolitan Police, the Minister for Justice, and the Minister for Home Affairs, waited upon the Emperor at His Majesty's desire. It is stated that the Emperor asked them regarding the preparations for the treatment of foreigners on the new Treaties coming into operation.

A dispatch to the Government announces that German men-of-war are cruising in the vicinity of Fukien, apparently surveying the coast of a certain place there.

20th March.

The British Minister at Peking, who has been appointed to act in the interests of

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

Italy, will only take charge of general Italian affairs. He will take no steps in regard to the Sommen Bay question.

From Nagasaki papers to the 27th ult., we learn that Lady Tsuru, the wife of Mr. T. B. Glover, died at Tokio on the 22nd ult.—All the Corean Ministers have been dismissed as a result of a quarrel in the Emperor's presence between Chin Shu-kan and Min Hei-kan. The former has been sentenced to banishment for life and the latter to 15 years' imprisonment.—Japan has been granted a Settlement at Amoy.

A telegram received by the French Legation at Tokio gives the following account of the recent explosion at Bourges :—

Saigon, 20th March.

An accidental explosion has taken place in the pyrotechnical laboratory of the Arsenal at Bourges. Three persons were killed and five injured.

Four ¶ parts.

H.B.M.'s SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, 29th March.

Before Sir Nicholas J. Hannen, *Chief Justice.*

In re Watson & Co., (Appellants,) and E. J. Cooper, (Respondent.)

Judgment.

Judgment was given in this matter, Mr. B. P. Wilkinson appearing for the plaintiffs and appellants.

His Lordship said—This is an appeal from the Judgment of the Provincial Court of Amoy, in a suit for damages and other relief instituted by the appellants against the respondent. The appellants are a British Company carrying on the business of chemists and aerated water manufacturers, wine and spirit and cigar merchants, at Hongkong and various ports in China. The respondent is general manager to Messrs. Moalle & Co., stevedores and ship chandlers at Amoy, dealing amongst other things in aerated waters, wines, spirits and cigars. The plaintiffs in their petition claimed £800 from defendant being £100 for every month during which he had been in the employ of Messrs. Moalle in violation of a contract dated 9th February 1888, clause 10 of which runs as follows :—

"The said Edwin Cooper shall not within twenty years from the date hereof engage directly or indirectly in the business of a chemist, druggist, aerated water manufacturer, perfumer, wine and spirit or cigar merchant or dealer, or become assistant to any other person or persons carrying on any such business or businesses, whether wholesale or retail, or simply as agent or agents thereto or as merchant either at Hongkong or at any Treaty Port of China or Japan, at Manila or the Philippine Islands or the Straits Settlements, or Siam or Cochin China without the consent in writing of the said company under the hand of their General Manager, first had and obtained and in the event of the breach of this clause by the said Edwin Cooper he shall and will pay to the said company the sum of (One hundred pounds) £100, sterling for each and every month or part of a month during which he shall have been or shall be so engaged whether directly or indirectly, the said sum to be payable and recoverable monthly and every month as and for liquidated damages and not as penalty."

They further alleged that they had never consented to the defendant joining the firm of Moalle & Co. The defendant in his answer alleged *inter alia* that the agreement imposed an unreasonable restraint of trade and was opposed to public policy. He also submitted that the plaintiffs had by their actions admitted his right to violate the covenant. The judgment of the Court below which consisted of the Provincial Judge and two assessors found (one assessor dissenting) for the defendant with costs on the ground that the restriction went beyond what was reasonably necessary for the protection of the plaintiffs regard being had to the nature of their business. In the petition of appeal the appellants alleged *inter alia* that the contract was divisible and that the second issue in the pleadings whether the plaintiffs had consented to the admitted breach of the covenant had not been decided by the Court. Upon this point I may at once say that it is plain that the plaintiffs never consented to the breach of clause 10. The Court below did not decide the point because in the view which it took of the case it was unnecessary to decide it. In his answer the respondent alleged that he was employed by the appellants as dispensing chemist and that his actions could not be restrained when in any other capacity and that respondent had nothing to do with the manufacture of soda water by Messrs Moalle. Further that the breach if any was of unreasonable portions of the contract.

The law with regard to this sort of covenant is now fairly well defined. There was a time when such agreements were considered *primâ facie* void as in restraint of trade but, if the covenantee could show that the covenant was given for sufficient consideration and that under the circumstances of the case it was reasonable it was held valid. Afterwards the Courts held that they would not investigate the adequacy of the consideration. The rule at present appears to be that if the covenant is not more extensive than is reasonably necessary for the protection of the covenantee notwithstanding its generality it will be enforced. In the present case it would seem reasonable that the plaintiffs should frame and enforce a covenant which would prevent an employé of theirs in Amoy from joining a firm of that port which competed with them seriously in any important branch of their business. It appears from the evidence and is indeed a matter of general knowledge to the residents in the Treaty Ports of China that an important branch of Messrs. Watson & Co's business is the manufacture of aerated waters. From the fact that Messrs. Moalle & Co. are described in their own expresses as "Wine and spirit merchants, aerated water manufacturers, etc.,' it seems to me plain that this firm compete with Messrs. Watson & Co. in this important branch of their business. In the same express they state that they have manufactured aerated waters in Amoy for 20 years and that their sale increases. From this I think it is plain that they compete seriously. It is difficult to understand why a firm of stevedores, if they intended to continue to make that the principal branch of their business, should engage as their general manager, a pharmaceutical chemist who cannot have had any experience as a stevedore. It would seem that whatever their business has hitherto been they now intended to devote themselves very seriously to the aerated water manufactory in which the defendant's experience at Amoy would be of material help to them. I do not think that the number of trades which the plaintiffs seek to debar the defendant from carrying on or joining in carrying on in Amoy is of itself sufficient to make the covenant void. It must always be a question whether the trades however numerous they are form substantial portions of the covenantee's business. I take it that the trades of wine merchants and aerated water manufacturers are substantial portions of the business of Messrs. Watson & Co., and from exhibits I and J it is also plain that these branches are substantial portions of Messrs. Moalle's business. Messrs. Moalle also seem to sell bovril, meat juice, Liebig's extract, etc., all articles which are commonly dealt in by chemists. There is a very large amount of business which is common to the two firms of Watson & Co. and Moalle & Co. and it seems to me reasonable that Messrs. Watson & Co. should seek to enforce a covenant which undoubtedly in its terms prevents the defendant from joining such a firm. There is no doubt that the defendant covenanted not to join a firm carrying on the business of aerated water manufacturers or wine spirit and cigar merchants and there is no doubt that he has committed a breach of this covenant. The only reason there can be for not enforcing the covenant is that it would be against public policy to do so. I do not think that it is—for it is to be observed that the public are more concerned to see that solemn contracts are adhered to than to see that the individual liberty of this defendant is not interfered with. I am very unwilling to come to a conclusion differing on what is principally a matter of fact from the Court below but the assessors differed in opinion and the question is one which does not depend on the demeanour of witnesses but on the inferences to be drawn from admitted or proved facts. As I have no doubt in my mind that the covenant as it is sought to be enforced is not more extensive than is reasonably necessary for the protection of the plaintiffs I feel bound to enforce it. The result will be that the judgment order and decree of the Lower Court will be set aside with costs here and in the Court below. In the original petition a claim is made for a certain sum as damages and for further or other relief. I think that the justice of the case will be met by an injunction against the defendant continuing in the employ of Messrs. Moalle & Co., or joining any other firm of chemists, etc., in Amoy, or in any other way acting contrary to such terms of the agreement of the 9th of February, 1888, as are still in force. The exact terms of the injunction should be drawn up by the plaintiffs and submitted to me in chambers and it should be so framed as to allow the plaintiffs to enforce their claim for liquidated damages should the defendant disregard the injunction.

H.B.M.'s CIVIL SUMMARY COURT.

Shanghai, 29th March.

Before F. S. A. Bourne, Esq., *Deputy Judge.*

Sunder Singh v. Chita Singh.

Chita Singh was summoned to show cause why he had failed to satisfy a judgment given against him for $47 in favour of plaintiff. It was stated that the defendant was earning $16 a month as a watchman and that he had $200 in the Bank.

Defendant denied the statement in regard to the banking account.

He was ordered to settle the claim in seven days; in default he would have to go to prison.

"Wot Cher, Mate?" may be a rough form of salutation, but the kindliness of its intention cannot be questioned; therefore it may not be out of place to adopt it here. Those who may be suffering from bad health can be speedily relieved from their misery by the aid of Holloway's Pills and Ointment They are equally good for the old, young, or middle-aged. For weakness, lassitude, fever, diarrhœa, dysentery, measles, croup and similar complaints, these medicines cannot be equalled; whilst for skin diseases, sores, ulcers, scrofula and old wounds, they have effected cures in cases declared hopeless by eminent medical men. Full directions as to the use of these remarkable remedies are given to purchasers.

16oc-99 234 17th Oct., 1898.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

H.B.M.'s POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, 28th March.

Before E. H. Burrows, Esq.,
Police Magistrate.

R. v. Hopkins.

Reginald George Hopkins, a young man, was charged with the larceny of $1,000, at the instance of the Hongkong police.

Captain Pattisson, Chief of the Local Police, spoke to receiving a telegram from Hongkong as a consequence of which he gave instructions for the arrest of prisoner.

Chief Inspector Howard deposed to going on board the Austrian mail steamer *Maria Valerie* when she arrived at the lower limits on Monday. He at once recognised Hopkins as the man wanted, but no actual arrest was made until the steamer arrived at the wharf at Hongkew. When the vessel was made fast to the wharf he instructed Detective Sergeant Wood to follow the prisoner on his landing and ask him certain questions. This was done and satisfied him that the prisoner was the man wanted. Prisoner was afterwards arrested and admitted that his name was Hopkins. He made no reply to the announcement that he had been arrested on information from Hongkong for stealing $1,000. His property was afterwards confiscated, two loaded revolvers being found amongst his property. Prisoner was remanded for a week pending the arrival of certain documents from Hongkong.

30th March.

R. v. Hopkins.

Reginald George Hopkins was brought up on remand charged with the larceny of $1,000 by fraudulent means at Hongkong.

Chief Inspector Howard informed the Court that the police had not as yet received any instructions from Hongkong and he applied for a further remand.

His Worship granted the adjournment asked for.

MIXED COURT.

At the Mixed Court on Monday morning, before Mr. U. K. Chêng (magistrate) and Mr. S. F. Mayers (British assessor), Szo Kwei-dong was charged with making structural alterations to his dwelling house 1,465, North Szechuen Road, without obtaining a permit from the Municipal Engineer and completing the same after being cautioned by the police. Inspector Ramsay testified to having warned the accused on two different occasions against proceeding with the alterations without a permit. Mr. C. H. Godfrey on behalf of the Municipal Council stated that defendant had never made an application for a permit in regard to the proposed alterations. A fine of $20 was imposed.—A Chinese clerk in the employ of Mr. James A. Harvie was charged with embezzling at various times between the 24th of August 1898, and the 8th of February 1899, sums of money amounting to Tls. 4,370 by means of forging complainant's name. Mr. Harvie in evidence stated that the prisoner had obtained possession of bank orders and in witness's name had written to the bank when the bills became due and had asked in cases for a renewal for the period of sixty days. It was shown that a native not in custody was concerned with the prisoner in the affair but had absconded. Mr. Harvie added that he was not aware of the extent of the prisoner's malpractices. A remand was granted for further enquiries to be made and to admit of the police endeavouring to arrest the confederate.—Mr. T. Grant again appeared, not having received the Tls. 445 instalment, part of the sum of Tls. 1,125 which was ordered by the Court on the 24th inst. to be paid. One of the partners, who was present, in defence, stated that he had not the money. It was shown that the Tien Fuh theatre was being profitably worked, and consequently a warrant was made out for the arrest of the master, Wu Chang-sa.—The Chinese clerk, for whom a warrant was issued on Monday morning in connection with Mr. J. A. Harvie's case gave himself up at the Central Station late last night.—On Tuesday morning before Mr. Chêng (magistrate) and Dr. Barchet (American assessor) the Chinese clerk in the employ of Mr. Jas. A. Harvie who gave himself up at the Central Station on the previous day was brought up and charged with embezzling the sum of Tls. 25,000 on various dates. The prosecutor was not present. Defendant said he had only used part of the money and gave the names of others who were implicated; he also stated he was prepared to refund the amount he had used. The case was remanded pending the arrest of those mentioned.—On Wednesday morning before Mr. Chêng (Magistrate) and Mr. S. F. Mayers (British Assessor)—A Chinese clerk employed by Mr. James A. Harvie was brought up on remand from the 27th inst., together with a confederate, also in the same employ, who has since given himself into custody, charged with embezzling the sum of Tls. 25,500 by the forgery of prosecutor's name. Mr. Nelson (Messrs. Stokes and Platt), who appeared for Mr. Harvie, informed the Court that one of the prisoners was willing to arrange for the refunding of the money and asked the Court to adjourn the case indefinitely and to release the prisoner on substantial bail to allow him to do so, other prisoner to be kept in custody. This being satisfactory to all concerned the case was adjourned *sine die*.—On Wednesday afternoon before the Magistrate (Mr. U. K. Chêng) and Mr. F. S. A. Bourne (British Assessor), Lo Yen-shih appeared on an adjourned summons for breach of contract. An agreement had been entered into between the defendant and Mr. J. Jones on behalf of the International Cotton Manufacturing Company for the delivery of a quantity of seed cotton. He had, however, like a number of other cotton merchants, refused to carry out his contract when the price of the commodity went up, and Mr. Jones now sought to have the defendant ordered to supply the 2,000 bales short. When the case was last before the Court defendant was ordered to abide by the terms of his contract, but he had disregarded the finding of the Bench. He was detained in custody pending a settlement.—Mr. H. Forrester sued a Chinese metal dealer named Sheng Ch'ang for damage to his bicycle occasioned by the negligence of the defendant or his agents. The plaintiff spoke to riding along Broadway, which at the time was crowded with pedestrians, and falling over a quantity of iron bars which had been placed in the road outside defendant's premises. His machine was seriously injured the damage having been estimated at $40. The repairs had cost $17.75, but the silver plating could not be renewed in Shanghai, hence the increased amount for damage claimed. He had also been put to an expense of Tls. 10, in respect of translation and valuer's fees. Mr. Bourne pointed out that the Chinese ought to be notified that obstructions of this kind could not be tolerated and that offenders in the future would be prosecuted. Inspector Collins, who was in Court, noted Mr. Bourne's remarks. Defendant was ordered to pay $17.75 but his Worship regretted he could not re-imburse the plaintiff for his other expenses as it would constitute a difficult precedent. Mr. Bourne said defendant had got off very lightly and he certainly thought the plaintiff should have received more.

THEN IT WENT ON ALL RIGHT.

The writer of the letter which I am going to copy for you is a moment has a complaint to make. Rather, perhaps, a complaint to place on record, as the reason for it is passed away for the present and she hopes—and we hope with her—that it may not return. The complaint does not refer to any relative, friend, or foe, but to her own heart. It did not work well. It was weak, and for a long time she was unable to find means to make it do better. Which was a serious matter, inasmuch as the vigour of the circulation of the blood always depends upon the force wherewith the heart drives it.

Still, it seems to me we ought to be a bit indulgent towards the heart in view of the labour it has to perform. Remember that it never takes a full minute's rest at one time, night or day, from the instant it begins at your birth until, like a muffled drum, it stops for good and all—life's funeral march to the grave being over. During all this while, ten years or a hundred, the heart has got to keep on pumping blood through your body at the rate of from 130 strokes a minute in childhood to 50 or 60 in old age. If you happen to have a mechanical turn of mind it may interest you to figure out how much this stand for in units of horse-power for a given case and time. If not you can take my word for it that, merely as a machine, the heart deserves your respect. So long as it goes ahead steadily, up hill and down dale, hammering away softly but strongly, you haven't a word to say for or against it; but when it begins to get weak, may be skipping a stitch now and then, you call in the doctor, who puts the tip of his finger just below the base of your left thumb, looks wise and solemn (as befits the occasion), and says, "Ah, yes, yes: I see, I see." But *what* does he see? He doesn't tell you *that*; he leaves medicine, and mentions when he will look in again.

But as to the letter I spoke of. "For many years," the lady says, "I suffered from indigestion and went hurt. Very little exertion made me feel weary and tired. Cold, clammy sweats broke over me. I had a poor appetite, and after meals an aching pain at the chest and a miserable sinking feeling at the stomach. I had also much pain at the left side, and my heart would flutter so as to frighten me. At length I became so weak I was barely able to get about being no longer able to do my housework.

"Owing to the trouble at my heart I obtained no proper rest at night, and often walked about my bedroom at night. Many times these attacks were so bad *I thought I was dying*. During the day a sense of suffocation sometimes came upon me and I was obliged to go to the door for fresh air.

"Year after year I suffered like this; now a little better, now as bad as I could be. In November, 1887, while on a visit to Croydon my son-in-law persuaded me to try Mother Seigel's Syrup. He got me a bottle, and after taking it I experienced great relief. The pain at my heart was easier, and I felt better as a whole. I could eat well and the food agreed with me.

"I now felt encouraged to continue using this remedy. Soon I was in better health than for years, the heart trouble having disappeared altogether. Since that time when I feel anything ailing me a few doses of Mother Seigel's Syrup never fail to give the desired relief. I have told many persons of the benefit I have derived from it, and hereby consent to your publishing this statement should you wish to do so."—(Signed) (Mrs.) William Harrington. Near Wickford Hill, Clare, Suffolk, November 12th, 1897.

Now what ailed Mrs. Harrington's heart? Why, precisely the same thing that ailed her lungs, her nerves and her muscles—*weakness*. Therein she is right. It *was* a weak heart but not a *diseased* heart. The heart is a muscle, and (seeing the prodigious lot of work it has to do) necessarily a strong, active muscle. But it will not work without pay any more than you or I will. With all the rest of the body it has got to be sustained and strengthened by food. Here we have the point, then. The lady was afflicted with chronic indigestion. For this reason her whole body grew weak—the heart, of course, with other parts of the engine. Hence all the symptoms she names. Her immense all-

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

round weakness and puller-down is that same old dyspepsia. When Mother Seigel's Syrup made the digestion of plenty of food possible, the heart went on all right, like a newly wound clock.

(1) 27mr 3 & 10ap 240

Miscellaneous Intelligence.

BIRTHS.

At the Margaret William-on Hospital, on the 25th of March, 1899, the wife of JOHN JÜRGENS, of a son

At Kona Vista, Lisburn Road, Belfast on the 19th of February, 1899, the wife of Dr T. L. BRANDER, Jiujow, Manchuria, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

At the Cathedral, on the 25th inst., by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A. assisted by the Rev. C. J. F. Symons, M.A. ARTHUR T. KEMBER, F.R.G.S. ED.; C. M. S. Hospital, Hun chow, to ALICE, second daughter of Richard HUNT, Esq., Hampstead.

DEATH.

At Nanking, on the 21st of March, 1899, HANNAH ROSHER, of the Society of Friends, and for over six years a nurse at the London Hospital.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer		Wind.		Hygrometer.		Thermometer in shade		Remarks.
	9 A.M.	Attached Therm.	Direction	Force.	Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	Max.	Min.	
Mar.									
28	30.02	60.0	W.	1	59.5	53.0	69.0	52.0	B.
29	29.98	63.0	S.	3	62.5	57.5	66.0	55.0	c
30	30.10	58.5	S.	2	62.0	56.5	70.0	47.0	B.
31	30.09	45.0	W.N.W.	2	48.0	42.5	68.0	41.0	B.
Apr.									
1	29.98	62.0	S.S.E.	2	61.5	47.5	73.0	42.5	B
2	29.50	55.0	E.	0	54.0	51.0	59.0	44.0	c.r
3	29.60	52.0	S.E.	4	51.0	50.0	56.0	49.0	c

EXPLANATION.

In Hints:—b blue sky; c, clouds; f, fog; hail; l lightning; m, misty (hazy); o, overcast (dull); r, rain; s, snow; t, thunter; z, clam. Force from 1, to 12, estimated.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per str. *Chusan*, for London—Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Clarke, 2 children and infant, Rev. and Mrs. Fernstrom, child and infant Mrs. Gaskin, Miss Turner, and Mr. W. D. R. Goodfellow. For Marseilles—Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Robertson and infant. For Hongkong—Messrs. W. A. Cruickshank, L. Self, R.N., K. Matsumoto, Pescio, and A. Oist.

Per str. *Bayern*, for London—Mrs J. P. Donovan.

Per str. *Formosa*, for London—Mr. B. Palmountain, Master and Misses (3) Gilmour, and European nurse. For Hongkong—Messrs. C. Simpson, and J. Blechynden.

Per str. *Kobe Maru*, for Nagasaki—Mrs. Esmiloff, Messrs. W Shackley, John Carter, H. S. Cooke, J. M. Miller, H. Kopstahl, Johikawa, Chang Yue chong, D. Yonedzu, Chang Sze-chang, Ung Chu-ding, Wong Kingfoo, and Kasuga. For Vladivostock—Mr. A. Shimanofsky. For Kobe—Mrs. and Miss Mori, Mrs. Dyer, Messrs. W. P. Lambe, H. Ito, and T. Nishigaki. For Yokohama—Messrs. Yuen Tsu-chwang, Yu Ping-chong S. Miyoshi, S. Tsutsumi, M. Thompson, and Yang Chow-lung For London—Messrs. P. J. Russell, Geo Whitton. 41 in steerage.

Per str. *Maria Valerie*, for Kobe—Mr. A. R. Miller. For Penang—Mr. and Mrs. Paturel. For Trieste Mr. and Mrs. Berg. Mr. and Mrs. Vela, and Mr. H. Hübbe.

Per str. *Océanien*, for Kobe—Mr. Alexis Haimon, and 1 Japanese.

Per str. *Maria Valerie*, for Kobe—Mr. A. R. Miller. For Trieste—Mr. and Mrs. Berg, Mr. and Mrs. Vela, and Mr H. Hübbe.

Per str. *Kwangtee*, for Hongkong—Mr. C. Rassmussen.

Per str. *Kiangteen*, for Ningpo—Rev. E. Ronxel.

Per str. *Pekin*, for Ningpo—Mr. J. Smith, Master and Miss Watson.

Per str. *Poyang*, for Hankow—Messrs. K. Wada, Oshima, and Fumatsu.

Per str. *Tatung*, for Hankow—Messrs. Le Champion, and Newman.

Per str. *Peiyang*, for Chefoo—Messrs. Bove, L. Dabjansky, and J. Stiedfarth, Captain Sonatas, and Engineer Henke. For Tsintau—Dr. Warkentin, Lieut. Terni, Messrs. C. von der Heyde, and L. Kahtz.

Per str. *Kingsing*, for Tangku—Mrs. and Miss Tucker, Messrs. L. F. Bridges, M. Stempel, and O. Mordhorst.

Per str. *Pekin*, for Ningpo—Mr. and Mrs. H. Gribble.

Per str. *Chunking*, for Chefoo—Mrs. Vanderlip. For Tangku — Miss Andrews, Messrs. W. H Poate, and Hwonnait.

Per str. *Taisang*, for Foochow—Mr. C. A. Pennington. For Manila—Mr. G.W. Bennett

Per str. *Kiangyung*, for Nanking—Mr. Shen Tun-ho. For Kiukiang—Mr. and Mrs. Chu.

Per str. *Poyang*, for Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Coe.

Per str. *Kiangteen*, for Ningpo—Mrs. and the Misses von Möllendorff.

Per str. *Hsinfung*, for Tangku—Mr. and Mrs. Shun, Messrs. Marzoli, H. J. Grawin, W. Trautmann, and Kierueff.

Per str. *Nyanhin*, for Chinkiang—Mr. Tisdall. For Wuhu—Mr. Holland. For Hankow—Messrs. F. Dallas, and Dadich.

Per str. *Anping* for Tangku—Messrs T. Nakamura, Teng, Liang, Yamakawa, and . Takagi.

Per str. *Kiangyung*, for Nanking—Dr. H. Kempte.

Per str. *Hsinfung*, for Tientsin—Mr. W. Bell.

Per str. *Kiangteen*, for Ningpo—Mr. and Mrs. Frazar, and Mr. W. W. Hoole.

Per str. *Hsingü*, for Tangku—Mr. and Mrs. Jno. W. Bailey, and Mr. Balsenhaur.

Per str. *Chunking*, for Tientsin—Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Buck, Lieut. and Mrs. A. L. Key.

Per str. *Hasan*, for Tangku—Messrs. Jadot, and Ouang.

ARRIVED.

Per str. *Glenfarg*, from London—Captain Smith.

Per str. *Ernest Simons*, from Marseilles—Mr. and Mrs. Acheson, baby and servant, Messrs. Southey and daughter, A. B. de Courcy, A. J. How, B. D. Tisdall, E Guy Holland, Cousin, Sprayt, and Lagleze. From Port Said—Messrs. Bostelmann, and Bouglier. From Suez—Mr. Dmitrievsky. From Singapore—Mr. and Miss Hunter, Messrs. Baldi, and Soh Yeow-chiang. From Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. J. White, Mr. and Mrs. Overbeck, Mrs. M. Chiatock, infant, and amah, Misses Chamberlain, and Brodie, L'abbé Barrab, Messrs. G. Ferguson, Newall, Dang and servant, Dongkut and servant, Cooper, A. Gilfilton C. Voullemier and servant, E. Faber, Thomson, Fourre, L. A. Lubeck, Martin Draiger, Chamberlain, Deheauchamp, J. Legg, Nayeard, and Rombag.

Per str. *Kobe Maru*, from Japan, etc.—Mrs. F. Tanaki, Misses R. Matsuzaka, M. Masuda, and C. Higuchi, Messrs. T. Tanabé, M. Miyake, M. Schwarz, Trepplin, G Davies, G. H. Ackerman, T. Ah Kuma, N Nonoka, S. H. Morita, S. Ratow, and S. Loff

Per str. *Taisang*, from Hongkong and Swatow—Capt. Hogg, and Mr. Sun Cheun.

Per str. *America Maru*, from Hongkong—Mrs. E. Bieber, Mrs. C. Richards, Misses F. Thornton, J. Rossand Forster, Messrs. N T. Holmes F. H. Formeaux, and W. E McGill.

Per str. *Tatung*, from Hankow—Dr. Dudgeon, Messrs. Bennett, Rhoden, Aglen, and Thomas.

Per str. *Kiangteen*, from Ningpo—Rev. R. Swallow.

Per str. *Hasting*, from Wenchow and Ningpo—Miss McGowans, and Mr. Paulsen.

Per str. *Kiangyung*, from Hankow—Mrs. and Miss Mourshead, Miss Andrews, Messrs. Scapelone, and Assenheimer.

Per str. *Feiching*, from Tangku—Messrs. J. F. Graham, L. Champion, and D. Nuvean.

Per str. *Paohua*, from Wuhu—Mrs. Gerioke. 49 Chinese.

Per str. *Oiyawa Maru*, from Hankow—63 Chinese.

Per str. *Kiangteen*, from Ningpo—Mr. Britton.

Per str. *Tehhsing*, from Hankow—Messrs. Chance, and Bortenstien.

Per str. *Suico*, from Hankow—Mr., Mrs. and Miss Edward, Misses Poole, and Vonsanter, Messrs. Moninot, M. B. Burel, and Hayashi.

Per str. *Pekin*, from Ningpo—Mr. Williamson, and Father Rouxel.

Per str. *Nyankin*, from Hankow—Miss Todd Messrs. Takagi, Yamakawa, Nishimaki, and Dubermard.

Per str *Sunl*, from Hankow—Mr. Inglesman.

Per str. *Anping*, from Tientsin—H.E. Yu and suite.

Per str. *Kiangteen*, from Ningpo—Mr. Claussen.

Per str. *Kiangyü*, from Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Wilson and child, Lord Li Mr. Seydel, and Rev. W. Funk.

Per str. *Haoshie*, from Foochow—Mr. and Miss Stenhouse, Lieut. and Mrs. Key, Mr. and Mrs Moss, Mr. and Miss King, and Mr. Cutlill.

Per str. *Wosang*, from Tientsin—Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Cunningham, Messrs. Fearon, and Parsons.

Per str. *Chungking*, from Tangku—Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kinyman and 3 children, Mrs. D. Z. Sheffield, Mrs. M. E.Cathoun, and Mr. J. F. Hannah. From Chefoo—Mr. Eckford, and Captain L.W. Marsh.

Per str. *Poochi*, from Wenchow—Mr., Mrs. and Master Brennan.

Per str. *Wuchang*, from Tangku—Messrs. W. D. P. Watson, S. Addis Scott, W. K. Welmon, W K. Brice, and J. F. Anderson.

Per str. *Perin*, from Ningpo—Mr P. Hahn

Per str. *Kutsa*, from Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Putman, Messrs. Manning, and Wong.

Per str. *Ella*, from Hankow—Messrs. A. Johnston, and G. Kingswell.

Per str. *Tungchow*, from Tangku, Chefoo, and Weihaiwei — Mrs. and Miss Crawford, Messrs. Johnston, Sutherland, Gildemeister, Birks, Dolgovonsky, and Randisisky.

Advertisements.

NOW READY.

THE NORTH-CHINA

DESK HONG LIST:

A GENERAL AND BUSINESS DIRECTORY

FOR

SHANGHAI, FOOCHOW, NINGPO, NORTHERN AND RIVERINE PORTS, COREA, &c.

FOR THE YEAR

1899.

PRICE:

In Cloth Cover with Map of China and Plan of Shanghai and Bubbling Well Road, &c. $3.00

In Cloth Cover without Map.....$2.00

To be had at

NORTH-CHINA HERALD OFFICE,

Messrs. KELLY & WALSH, LIMITED,

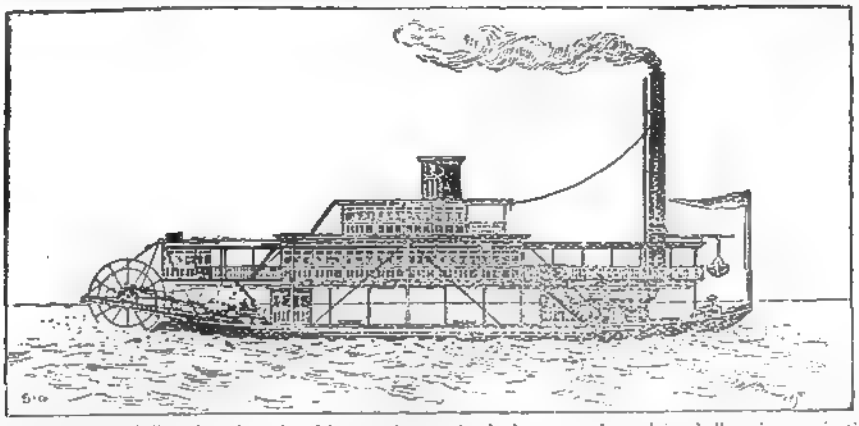
AND OF

Messrs. BREWER & Co.

a tf Shanghai, 8th March, 1899.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

YARROW'S SHALLOW DRAFT STEAMERS.



STERNWHEEL STEAMERS have been found by experience to be the best type of vessel for shallow river navigation under many conditions of working, and of these Messrs. Yarrow have built a very large number of successful examples for all parts of the world.

Vessels on this system are constructed when required, to draw as little as 16 inches.

The construction of shallow river vessels propelled on various systems has been made the speciality of Messrs. Yarrow & Co., Ltd.

For particulars apply to
YARROW & CO., LTD., Shipbuilders,
POPLAR, LONDON.

26mr-900 238 27th March, 1899.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Paid-up Capital $10,000,000
Reserve Fund.....$10,000,000
Reserve Liability of Proprietors.$10,000,000

HEAD OFFICE, HONGKONG.

COURT OF DIRECTORS:
R. M. GRAY, Esq.,—*Chairman.*
N. A. SIEBS, Esq.,—*Deputy-Chairman.*
HON. J. J. BELL-IRVING.
E. GOETZ, Esq.
DAVID GUBBAY, Esq.
ARMIN HAUPT, Esq.
R. H. HILL, Esq.
A. McCONACHIE, Esq.
A. J. RAYMOND, Esq.,
P. SACHSE, Esq.
R. SHEWAN, Esq.

Chief Manager,
Hongkong—T. JACKSON, Esq.

London Bankers.
LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING COMPANY, LIMITED.

Branches and Agencies:

London.		
Amoy.	Hankow.	Penang.
Bangkok.	Hiogo.	Rangoon.
Batavia.	Iloilo.	Saigon.
Bombay.	Lyons.	San Francisco.
Calcutta.	Manila.	Singapore.
Colombo.	Nagasaki.	Soerabaya.
Foochow.	New York.	Tientsin.
Hamburg.	Peking.	Yokohama.

SHANGHAI BRANCH.

INTEREST ALLOWED

On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per Annum on the daily balance up to Tls. 200,000.
On Fixed Deposits:—
For 12 months, 5 per cent. per Annum.
For 6 months, 4 ,, ,,
For 3 months, 3 ,, ,,

Local Bills Discounted.

Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Drafts granted on London and the Chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

WADE GARDNER,
Manager.
30ju-99 189 Shanghai, 22nd March, 1899.

BANQUE DE L'INDO-CHINE

Privilégiée par décrets du 21 Janvier 1875 et du 20 Février 1888.

HEAD OFFICE: 34, RUE LAFFITTE, PARIS.

Chairman—M. DENORMANDIE.

AGENCIES & BRANCHES:

Nouméa.	Tourane.
Pondichéry.	Phnom-Penh.
Saïgon.	Bangkok.
Haïphong.	Hongkong.
Hanoï.	

BANKERS:

IN FRANCE:
Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris.
Crédit Lyonnais.
Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas.
Société Générale de Crédit Industriel et Commercial.
Société Générale pour favoriser le développement du Commerce et de l'Industrie en France.
Messrs. Vernes & Co. } Paris.
,, Hottinguer & Co. }
,, Mallet Frères & Co. }
,, de Neuflize & Co. }
,, C. Goguel & Co. }

LONDON:
The Union Bank of London, Ld.
Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris.
Crédit Lyonnais.

SHANGHAI AGENCY.

Undertakes all banking operations, buys and sells bills of exchange on the principal commercial places in the world, grants credits on merchandise, and receives deposits on current accounts and fixed deposits at the market rate.

G. MAYER,
Acting Manager.
31de-98 2133 Shanghai, 3rd Mar., 1899.

ATLAS ASSURANCE COMPANY.

THE undersigned, having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to accept Risks, both Foreign and Native, at current rates.

DODWELL & Co., Ltd.
nS 18no-98 c.a. 1512 S'hai, 10th May, 1898

Deutsch-Asiatische Bank,

SHANGHAI, TIENTSIN, CALCUTTA, BERLIN,
TSINGTAO (KIAOCHOW), HANKOW.

Responsible Capital 5 Million Taels.

Founders and Correspondents of the Bank.

General-Direction der Seehandlungs-Societät, } Berlin.
Direction der Disconto-Gesellschaft, }
Deutsche Bank, }
S. Bleichröder, }
Berliner Handels-Gesellschaft, }
Bank für Handel & Industrie, }
Robert Warschauer & Co., }
Mendelssohn & Co., }
M. A. von Rothschild & Söhne, } Frankfort o/M.
Jacob S. H. Stern, }
Norddeutsche Bank in Hamburg, Hamburg.
Sal. Oppenheim jun. & Co., Cologne.
Bayerische Hypotheken, & Wechselbank Munich.

London Bankers.

Messrs. N. M. ROTHSCHILD & SONS.
UNION BANK OF LONDON, Ld.
DEUTSCHE BANK (BERLIN), LONDON AGENCY.

INTEREST allowed on Current Account at 2 per cent per annum on the daily balance. Current Accounts kept in Taels and Dollars.

Interest allowed on Fixed Deposits according to arrangement.

Local Bills Discounted.

Every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

J. BUSE,
Acting Manager.
Shanghai, 25th Feb., 1899.
31de-98 188c

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE CO., LD.

HAVING been appointed Agent of the above Company, the undersigned is authorised to accept risks against Fire at current rates.

P. F. LAVERS.
tf 976 Shanghai, 15th Mar., 1899.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

IMPERIAL BANK OF CHINA.

Established by Imperial Decree of the 12th November, 1896.

Shanghai Taels.

Subscribed Capital..... 5,000,000
Paid-up Capital 2,500,000

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES:

Canton, Hankow,
Chefoo, Hongkong.
Chinkiang, Peking,
Foochow, Swatow,
Tientsin.

The Bank purchases and receives for collection Bills of Exchange drawn on the above places, and sells Drafts and Telegraphic Transfers payable at its Branches and Agencies.

HEAD OFFICE, SHANGHAI.

ADVANCES MADE ON APPROVED SECURITIES. BILLS DISCOUNTED.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS

At 2% per annum on current account daily balances.
" 3% " " Fixed Deposits for 3 months.
" 4% " " " " " 6 "
" 5% " " " " " 12 "

A. W. MAITLAND,
Acting Chief Manager.

31de-98 Shanghai, 17th Oct., 1898.
c.a. 310

THE BANK OF CHINA AND JAPAN, LIMITED.

Working Capital.....Over £200,000
Reserve liability of shareholders Fully £400,000
£600,000

HEAD OFFICE.
36, Nicholas Lane, London.

BRANCHES.
Hongkong, Shanghai, Singapore.

AGENCIES.
Yokohama, Kobe, Penang, Bombay, and Calcutta.

GENERAL MANAGER.
F. C. BISHOP.

INTEREST ALLOWED.

On Current Accounts .....2½% per annum.
" Fixed Deposits—
3 months 3½ per cent per annum.
" " 6 months 4½ " "
" " 12 months 5½ " "

The Bank buys and sells and receives for collection Bills of Exchange on, and transacts general Banking business with the above places.

J. W. R. TAYLOR,
Acting Manager.

31de-99 17 Shanghai, 14th Feb., 1899.

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LD.

(ESTABLISHED 1880.)

Subscribed Capital ..... Yen 12,000,000
Paid-up Capital ..... " 10,500,000
Reserve Fund ..... " 6,960,000

HEAD OFFICE, YOKOHAMA, JAPAN.

London Bankers:—

THE UNION BANK OF LONDON, LD.
THE LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK, LD.
PARR'S BANK, LD.

Branches and Agencies:—

Kobe, London, New York, Lyons, San Francisco, Honolulu, Bombay, and Hongkong.

Shanghai Agency.

Interest Allowed

On current account at the rate of ¼ per cent. per annum on the daily balance of over two hundred Taels.
On Fixed Deposits:—

For 3 months, 3½ per cent. per annum.
" 6 " 4½ " "
" 12 " 5½ " "

DRAFTS granted on principal places in Japan, Corea, Formosa, and China and the Chief Commercial places in Europe, India and America, and every description of exchange business transacted.

T. S. NISHIMAKI,
Agent.

c.a. 1de-98 19 Shanghai, 19th Sept., 1898.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

(From Messrs. Noël, Murray & Co. Piece Goods Trade Report of 1st April.)

PIECE GOODS.—Broken into by the Easter holidays the week under review has been quite devoid of anything of interest in our market, the daily transactions reported being of very small proportions and scarcely worthy of notice. The trouble is the Northern markets, in fact all the distributing centres, have received full supplies of goods that were brought at the lowest point, and the vendors of the same, being satisfied with modest profits, have not allowed prices to attain the level of those now ruling here, or what the goods could be replaced at, which naturally has upset the calculations of the dealers here who have had to replace their sales at enhanced prices. Importers cannot afford to make any concessions in face of the strong position of the home markets, and the result is almost a deadlock, as the dealers do not care to increase their already heavy holdings until there is a fair prospect of being able to place them at covering rates The only encouraging advice received during the interval is that the goods are moving more freely from TIENTSIN now, the transport having been much impeded at first by the want of water in the creeks. From NEWCHWANG we have heard of no special advices beyond that there is a good demand for low class AMERICAN Sheetings. NINGPO and the River markets continue disappointingly quiet, at the close, however, clearances are improving, but we are unable to locate a special demand from any particular quarter. There is no further news to hand respecting the Mohammedan rebellion in the North-west, beyond that stringent measures for its suppressing have been resorted to by the Government. It is rumoured that the British Minister to PEKING is shortly visiting NANKING in connection with its being opened as a Treaty Port. While it is certainly satisfactory to see new Ports opened up to Foreign trade and residence, we cannot help reiterating that what this trade most requires is cheap and easy access to the Cities in the interior, which can only be done by means of Railways, but in spite of the reported concessions that have been granted there seems to be a hitch somewhere, and much valuable time is being lost. That the Natives are eager and anxious to have this means of locomotion and transport introduced is beyond a doubt, and are quite willing to invest money for that purpose, provided it is under Foreign control.

The Auctions have certainly monopolised the market here this week, and, all things considered, were not attended with altogether unsatisfactory results as regards Cotton goods, although the previous week's prices were scarcely maintained in some instances. For Woollens, however, the reverse was the case, prices still continuing to decline.

The latest advices from MANCHESTER report the market there quiet but strong, and as far as we are able to gather very little buying for this market has been indulged in. The threatened strike amongst the operatives appears to have subsided. Cotton is unchanged.

The only news we hear of from NEW YORK is that PEPPERELL Drills are offering at 8s. 6d. for delivery late this year, but so far no buyers have been found here on those terms.

The market for Yarns is very slack, prices gradually drooping for all Spinnings. The limit price fixed for Cotton last week by the Mill Owner's Association was ₹13.25 for best steam machine ginned, but nothing appears to have been done under ₹13.70, while at the close the market is firmer owing to purchases for the Outports at rather better prices.

Grey Shirtings.—8.4-lbs.—Sales are reported of 7,800 pieces as follows:—*Blue Cock* ₹2.02½, *Red Cornerant* and *Red Rhinoceros* ₹2.05 and *Two Bird* ₹2.12½. For all makes prices were fairly well maintained at Auction.

Light Weights have been quite neglected privately, though steady prices were paid at Auction.

Heavy Weights.—There is only one small private sale to report, namely, 1,500 pieces 11½-lbs. *Green Bear* at ₹3.30. At Auction the tendency was slightly lower.

12-lbs., 36-inch.—A sale is announced of 6,000 pieces *Three Soldier DDDD*, 13-lbs. *Continentals* at ₹3.25, and is all we hear of beyond the Auctions, where prices were inclined to be irregular.

White Shirtings.—Business in these makes has been chiefly in retail quantities, the following quotations being published:—*AA* ₹2.90, *BB* ₹3.05, *Gold Dragon* and *Gold Three Dragon* ₹3.11½, and *CC* ₹3 30. Firm prices were maintained at Auction.

T-Cloths.—There is no business reported privately in either make, but at Auction firm prices prevailed.

Jeans.—ENGLISH.—A decline of three candareens is noticeable in the prices paid for the small lots offered at Auction.

Drills.—ENGLISH.—A smart drop took place in Auction prices for this make, but we have not heard of any private transactions. In DUTCH a sale of 600 pieces *Blue Dragon* is reported at ₹2.65, and in AMERICAN 1,500 pieces *Cat* chop at ₹2.90.

Sheetings.—In ENGLISH makes there is no movement to advise, and in AMERICAN only 1,000 pieces *Blue Buffalo* at ₹2.62½.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

Fancy Goods.—Business in this department seems to have been practically at a standstill this week.

Woollens.—Nothing further is reported in these privately, the market, judging by the Auctions, being extremely weak. Camlets sold very irregularly, the better makes not being wanted, while the common are realising relatively much higher prices. Long Ells are decidedly dull and drooping, prices being lower all round. Lastings are also down and look weak. For Spanish Stripes a decline of one to two candareens has been paid for most chops, the exceptions being very few.

Cotton Yarn.—*Indian.*—Business continues restricted in these Spinnings, the settlements this week only amounting to 877 bales, the greater part consisting of No. 20s. for the River markets at a decline of half a tael. No. 16s. are quite neglected, but the lower counts are unchanged, the market closing steady. Sales are as follows :—

No. 6s., 10 bales.—*Leopold* ₹51.00.

No. 10s., 260 bales.—*Imperial* ₹54.00, *Empress Mill* ₹54.50, *Tea Carrier* and *Connaught* ₹55.50.

No. 12s., 50 bales.—*City of Bombay*, Ring ₹57.00.

No. 20s., 557 bales *Gooseric* ₹61.75, *Empress Spinning* and *Vithaldas Copoldas*, *Woman* ₹63.00, *Jubilee* Mule ₹63.25, *Hope Mill* ₹64.00, *Britannia* Ring ₹64.50, *Jubilee* Ring and *Howard* and *Bullough* ₹64.75, *China Mill* ₹65.00 and *Tea Carrier* ₹65.50/65.00.

Japanese.—Transactions amount to about 600 bales for the week, chiefly amongst the Natives as usual. Prices paid for 16s. range from ₹62.00 to ₹63.25 and for No. 20s. from ₹65.00 to ₹66.25. 60 bales *Three Ring* No. 20s. were sold at ₹66.00 by Importers. Prices in Japan are about on a par with this for No. 20s., but one tael over for No. 16s. The market there has been falling so rapidly lately that operators are afraid to make contracts at present.

Local.—A small business continues, but prices show a further decline, the sales reported by the Mills amounting to 575 bales, as under :—

Ewo No. 2.....125 bales	No. 12s.	₹62.50.	No. 14s. ₹64.25—packed.
Soy Chee.....100 ,,	No. 10s.	₹59.50.	,,
Wo Sung .....150 ,,	No. 14s.	₹64.00.	,,
Wha Sheng.....100 ,,	No. 14s.	₹65.00.	,,
Yu Yuen.....100 ,,	No. 14s.	₹63.50.	No. 12s. 62.00—unpacked.

Bundles have been resold as follows :—

No. 16s. ₹61.75/64.50. No. 14s. ₹61.00/63.50 and No. 12s. ₹59.25/61.50.
The market is steady at the close but deliveries are slow.

Opium.—Closing quotations :—Malwa (new) ₹520/535, (old) ₹570/660 ; Patna ₹823 ; Benares ₹634, (new) ₹612.

EXPORTS.

Silk.—From Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Sons' Circular of 1st inst. :—

The Home markets remain steady at last quotations.

RAW SILK.—Very little has been doing in old silk. Contracts are reported in new season's silk to extent of 1,500 bales on the basis of Gold Kiling at Tls. 510 @ 505, Bird Chunling Tls. 550, and Tls. 510 for White Kahing Gold Lily Flower and Gr Kahing Gold Goose.

YELLOW SILK.—A very small business doing.
Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, March 25th to 30th, are : 509 bales White, 62 bales Yellow and 313 bales Wild Silk.

RE-REELS AND FILATURES.—About 50 bales have changed hands at quotations below.

STEAM FILATURES.—150 bales are reported sold on basis of Tls. 830/840 for First choice 10/12.

The Export of Steam Filatures to date is : 3,475 bales to Continent, 2,540 bales to America, and 144 bales to England.
The Export to date is some 2,600 bales less than export to same date last year.

WILD SILK.—About 60 bales have been sold.
The arrivals are rather heavy and consist of deliveries against contracts made in January.

WASTE SILK.—Nothing doing except in Tussah Waste, of which 900 piculs have been settled at Tls. 26/26¼ for 60% No. I, 40% No. II.

PONGEES.—Very little doing.
Shantungs 33/34" × 19/19½ × 38/39 oz. are reported at Tls. 8.75.

Prices calculated by Maerten's Tables at 11 per cent. Exchange 2/8½ and Fcs. 3.41. Freight Tls. 7.80 per bale.

	Tls. per pcl.	Stg. per lb.	Fcs. per bale
Tsatlees.—Stork Cheangling	505	11/9	32.45
,, Siehing Quongfoong	515	12/0	33.05
Hangchow Tsatlees.—Lanhock	500	11/7½	32.15
,, ,, Lanping	480	11/2	30.90
Taysaam.—9 × 12 Moss Green Horse 3	450	10/6	29.05
,, ,, ,, 4	430	10/0	27.80
,, ,, Green Stork 3	423½	9/11	27.40
,, ,, Gold Bear Ex.	370	8/7½	24.05
Skeins.—Blue Monster 1	380	8/11	24.60

	Tls. per pcl.	Stg. per lb.	Fcs. per kilo
Yellow Silk.—Miencheow Market 1	383½	9/0	24.90
,, Wongchow Ex.	285	6/9	18.70
Steam Filature.—			
First Choice, 10/12, 13/15	830a840	19/0a19/3	52.90a53.70
Second ,, 13/15	825	18/10½	52.45
Hand Filature.—Pegasus 1, 2 & 3	625	14/6	40.00
,, Mars Chop	615	13/3½	39.40
Wild Silk.—Tussah Filature Three Joss Chop, 8 Cocoons	257½	6/2	17.00
,, Tussah Raw 1	172½	4/4½	41.75

	1898-99.	1897-98.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1894-95.	1893-94.
Settlements for this mail .....about	300	200	1,500	1,000	250	2,000 bales.
,, season including forward contracts	76,500	66,400	60,600	70,500	65,500	69,500 ,,
Stock ..... ,,	1,000	5,700	5,500	13,500	4,750	6,500 ,,
Total Arrivals, including Steam Filatures .. .. ,,	76,500	72,100	66,000	84,000	70,250	76,000 ,,

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

	* England.	* France, &c.	Total Europe.	America.	India & Egypt.	Japan, Coast & Straits.	Grand Total.
Export of Steam Filatures, pls.	144	3,475	3,619	2,540	...	...	6,159 bales.
Export White Silk in Bales of 80 catties	2,037	39,927	41,964	6,275	1,629	854	50,722 ,,
,, Yellow Silk in piculs...	15	3,048	3,063	...	4,289	762	8,114 ,,
,, Wild ,, ,, ...	150	8,750	8,900	590	76	147	9,713 ,,
Total.....	2,346	55,200	57,546	9,405	5,994	1,763	74,708 ,,
Against in 1897-98	1,943	45,507	47,450	11,305	4,971	2,457	66,183 ,,
,, 1896-97	2,802	42,905	45,707	6,738	3,342	2,134	57,921 ,,
,, 1895-96	2,452	47,229	49,751	9,544	7,155	3,411	69,861 ,,
,, 1894-95	2,217	45,502	47,719	7,984	6,540	2,139	64,382 ,,
,, 1893-94	5,097	46,061	51,158	3,099	8,880	2,465	65,602 ,,
,, 1892-93	3,038	52,447	55,485	6,273	5,914	1,815	69,487 ,,
Export Waste Silk	12,058	29,562	42,520	1,022	10	1,236	44,788 piculs.
Against in 1897-98	11,482	27,313	38,795	589	52	1,406	40,842 ,,
,, 1896-97	7,605	23,309	30,914	1,578	1	34	32,527 ,,
,, 1895-96	16,496	28,397	43,893	1,744	...	982	48,619 ,,
Export Cocoons.....	...	2,962	2,962	7	...	3,064	6,033 ,,
Against in 1897-98	90	1,247	1,346	66	...	4,486	5,898 ,,
,, 1896-97	217	4,116	4,333	60	...	4,847	9,240 ,,
,, 1895-96	...	2,272	2,272	935	...	2,092	5,299 ,,

* Many shipments are now sent optional, Marseilles or London.
Also 19 piculs Old Silk Wadding to London.
,, 1,847 ,, ,, ,, ,, Continent.
1,866

Freight.—From Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s Report of 3rd instant:—

Our homeward freight market has undergone no change since last writing on the 20th ultimo. Cargo is obtainable in dribbling quantities only, the principal support to steamers coming from Outports.

Coastwise.—Trade with Northern Ports is now in full swing again, though but a feeble demand exists in Japan for Newchwang produce, owing to serious losses last season. Our quotations in this direction are Japanese fixtures, so cannot be taken as local business.

For London viâ Suez.—There is nothing of importance to record. Cargo continues to go forward in insignificant quantities and the supply of tonnage has been ample. The *Pyrrhus*, shortly due from Japan, is circulated to sail on the 12th inst.

For New York viâ Suez.—The *Moyune* cleared on the 24th ultimo with 1,500 tons of cargo from here, and was replaced by the arrival of the *Lie* on the 29th ultimo. Her allotment for Shanghai is 1,500 tons, and as she will remain here until the 6th instant, that quantity should be forthcoming. After she leaves there will be no steamer, so far as is at present known, until the end of this month, the *Vortigern* and *Afridi* being mentioned as the next to load.

For New York viâ Cape.—The *McLaurin* cleared on the 1st inst. taking some 700 tons, and as her remaining cargo is ready in Hongkong, awaiting her arrival, there was nothing to be gained by keeping her longer. There are rumours of an existing offer for a further vessel, but whether anything will be taken up at the moment is uncertain.

DEPARTURES.

For London viâ Suez.—	*Chingwo* s.s.,	28th ult.
	Formosa s.s.,	31st ,,
	Prometheus s.s.	2nd inst.
For New York viâ Suez.—	*Moyune* s.s.	24th ult.
For New York viâ Hongkong and Cape.—	*McLaurin* s.v.,	1st inst.
For Newcastle, N.S.W.—	*Belmont* s.v., (in ballast)	27th ult.

RATES OF FREIGHT.

London	by Conference Lines,	General Cargo	40/0		W. Silk	42/6	Tea	45/0		
Northern Cont. Ports...	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	40/0	,,	42/6	,,	45/0
New York viâ London ...	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	47/6	,,	50/0	,,	52/6
Baltimore viâ London...	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	52/6	,,	55/0	,,	57/6
Konigsberg viâ London...	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	47/6	,,	50/0	,,	52/6
Manchester.....	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	52/6	,,	55/0	,,	57/6
Liverpool.....	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	47/6	,,	50/0	,,	52/6
Hamburg	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	40/0	,,	42/6	,,	45/0
Havre	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	40/0	,,	42/6	,,	45/0

Above rates are subject to a deferred rebate, as per Conference Circular.

Genoa.....	by Conference Lines,	Tallow	36/0	net,	General Cargo	36/0	net,	W. Silk	38/6	net,	Tea	40/6 net.
Marseilles	,,	,,	,,	36/0	,,	,,	,,	36/0	,,	,,	38/6	,, ,, 40/6 ,,

35/0 per ton of 20 cwt. net for above three ports.

New York, by Sail.....	18/0									
Do. viâ Pacific	1 gold ct. per lb. Tea,—6 cts. per lb. Silk,—$10.00 per ton Strawbraid.									
Do. viâ Suez	27/6	General Cargo.	10/0	extra for Turmeric.	27/6	Tea,	all	net.		
Boston	35/0	,,			,,	,,	40/0	,,	,,	
Philadelphia	35/0	,,			,,	,,	40/0	,,	,,	

COAST RATES.

Moji	to Shanghai	$2.00 per ton	Coal, nominal.
Nagasaki	,, ,,	$2.00 ,, ,,	,,
Newchwang ,,	Kobe.....	25 sen.	
,, ,,	Nagasaki	20 ,,	
,, ,,	Swatow	35 cents.	
,, ,,	Amoy	35 ,,	
,, ,,	Whampoa	38 ,,	
,, ,,	Canton	38 ,,	
Wuhu ,, Chinkiang	Canton	22 cents.	
,, ,,	Amoy	20 ,,	
,, ,,	Swatow	20 ,,	

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

Coals.—From Messrs Wheelock & Co.'s Report of 3rd instant:—

COAL.—Japan.—During the past fortnight there has been absolutely nothing done beyond a few sales to consumers. The Japan market is considerably weaker, but with the absence of tonnage there has been nothing done.

Cardiff.—Is without any enquiry. The s. v. *Carradale* arrived on the 21st ultimo with 3,219 tons, which has greatly increased stocks.

Sydney Wollongong.—For this article the market is very firm, as the stocks are hardly sufficient to last any length of time, consequently higher prices are asked for cargoes to arrive. We hear of a quantity of about 2,000 tons ex sailer having been placed at about Tls. 12.50 ex godown, that is all that has been done.

Quotations:—The undernoted figures are based on the most recent settlements for cargoes to arrive and do not represent the present market rates for coals in stock, which fluctuate with the supply and demand:—

Cardiff, ex godown	Tls. 19.00 per ton,	no demand.
American Anthracite, ex godown	„ 15.00 „	nominal.
Sydney Wollongong, steamer cargo ex godown	„ 12.00 „	sales.
Otzuji, ex godown	Tls. 6.75 @ 7.00 per ton.	
Karatz, ex godown		
Ohnoura, ex godown		
Komatzu „		
Hokoku „		
Ohnoura 3 feet		
„ 5 „		
Japan, Takasima Lump, ex godown	All contracted for.	
„ Small „		
Namazuta Lump, „		
„ Dust „		
Miiké Lump, „		
„ Small, ex godown		
Kaiping Coal: Linsi Lump ex godown	Tls. 7.00	
„ Linsi Mixed „	„ 5.60	
„ Tongshan No. 9 Lump „	„ 7.00	
„ „ No. 9 Dust „	„ 5.60	
„ „ No. 9 Mixed „	„ 6.50	

Arrivals during the fortnight have been:—

Mar. 4,	*Ching Wo*, str.	500	tons Cardiff Coal.
„ 20,	*Asosan Maru*, str.	1,713	„ Miiké Large Coal, to consumers.
„ 21,	*Hoko Maru*, str.	1,212	„ Mixed Japan Coal, to native dealers.
„ 21,	*Carradale*, s.v.	3,219	„ Cardiff Coal.
„ 22,	*Haiping*, str.	967	„ Linsi Mixed Coal, to consumers.
„ 22,	*Mikawa Maru*, str.	1,370	„ Mixed Japan Coal, to consumers.
„ 25,	*Atagosan Maru*, str.	1,962	„ Miiké Small and Ichimura Coal, to consumers.
„ 27,	*Fuping*, str.	455	„ Linsi Mixed Coal, to consumers.
		370	„ Dust Coal, to consumers.
„ 28,	*Asosan Maru*, str.	1,770	„ Miiké Large and Ichimura Coal, to consumers.

KEROSINE OIL.—American.—Little business has been done during the period under review and the market has suffered a very serious decline since our last, transactions having taken place at as low a figure as Tls. 1.67½ per case and closes with a weaker tendency. Arrivals have been *Mont Tryran* 23rd ulto., *Centurion* 24th ulto., and *Sachem* 28th ulto., bringing respectively 70,000 cases, 70,000 cases and 50,000 cases. Stocks, including these, amount to 732,346 cases.

Batoum.—Has also declined in sympathy with other brands, and is also weak at Tls. 1.57 per case. Stocks 369,000 cases.

Langkat.—There is very little that is interesting beyond that stocks have been replenished by the arrival of the s.s. *St. Helena* with 78,327 cases.

Quotations—Devoe's	Tls. 1.67½ per case.	
Batoum, Anchor Chop	„ 1.58 „	Two months' delivery less 2%.
„ Horse Chop	„ no stock.	
Star and Crescent Chop	„ 1.57 „	
Batoum, Bulk Oil cased locally	„ no stock.	
„ „	„ 1.57 clean, per two tins.	
Langkat	„ 1.57 „ „	
„ in cases	„ no stock.	
„ at the Tanks	„ 0.13½ per gallon.	

Exchange.—(Closing Rates)—On London—Telegraphic Transfers, 2s. 8d. Banks Bills, 2s. 8d. Banks Bills, 4 months' sight 2s. 8⅛d. First-Class Credits to Banks, 4 months' sight, 2s. 8⅛d.; 6 months' sight, 2s. 8⅛d.; Private and Documentary 4 months' sight, 2s. 8⅛d.; 6 months' sight, 2s. 8⅛d. On France—Bank Bills, Transfer Frs. 3.36. Credits and Documentary Bills 4 months' sight, 3.41, 6 months' sight, 3.42. On Germany—Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, Marks 2.77, lowest 2.77⅛, highest 2.77½. On New York—Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, per ₹100 G.$66½, lowest 66⅛, highest 66½. On Hongkong—Telegraphic Transfers, 73⅜, lowest 73⅜, highest 73½ per $100. Private Bills, 3 days' sight, 72⅝, lowest 72⅝, highest 73. On Yokohama—Telegraphic Transfers, ₹77½, lowest 77½, highest 77½ per Yen 100. Private Bills 15 days' sight, ₹76½, lowest 76½, highest 76⅝. On Bombay and Calcutta—Telegraphic Transfers, Rs. 200, lowest 200, highest 200 per ₹100. Bank Bills, demand, Rs. 200⅛, lowest 200½, highest 200½. Bullion—Gold Bars, Shanghai, 98 touch, ₹363.50, lowest 363.00, highest 363.50, Silver Bars, ₹111.15, lowest 111.10, highest 111.20. Mexican dollars, ₹73.6. lowest 73.55, highest 73.80. Carolus dollars, ₹92.00, lowest 91.00, highest 93.00. Copper Cash 1.180, lowest 1.170, highest 1.180. Chinese Interest, mace 0.9, lowest 0.9, highest 0.9. Bar Silver in London, per oz. 27 7/16d, lowest 27 7/16d, highest 27 7/16d.

Daily Quotations.

(From Messrs. Morrins & Robertson's Circular.)

March.	Bar Silver per oz in L'don.	On London. T/Transfers. Lowest.	T/Transfers. Highest.	Bank 4 m/s. Lowest.	Bank 4 m/s. Highest.	Credits 4 m/s. Lowest.	Credits 4 m/s. Highest.	Docty. 4 m/s. Lowest.	Docty. 4 m/s. Highest.	France. Francs 4 m/s. and 6 do. Lowest.	France. Francs 4 m/s. and 6 do. Highest.	Germany. 4 m/s. Priv.	New York. Docty. 4 m/s.	Hongkong. T/T	Yokohama. T/T	India. T/T Rup.
28th	27 7/16	2.8	2.8⅛	2.8⅛	2.8 3/16	2.8 3/16	2.8⅛	2.8 5/16	2.8⅝	3.41/3.42	3.41⅛/42½	2.77½	66½	73⅜	77½	200
29th	27 7/16	2.8	2.8 1/16	2.8⅛	2.8 3/16	2.8 7/16	2.8½	2.8 9/16	2.8⅝	3.41/3.42	3.41⅛/42½	2.77½	66½	73⅜	77½	200
30th	27 7/16	2.8	2.8 1/16	2.8⅛	2.8 3/16	2.8 7/16	2.8½	2.8 9/16	2.8⅝	3.41/3.42	3.41⅛/42½	2.77½	66½	73⅜	77½	200

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

Shares.—From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report of 3rd April :—

The March settlement and the Easter holidays have interfered with business.

BANKS.—*Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.*—One or two small lots of shares were sold for cash at 270% premium. The Hongkong quotation is 270% with sellers. The London rate is £53.

MARINE INSURANCE.—In Hongkong, *Unions* changed hands at $230, and *China Traders'* shares at $63. The latter are now obtainable at $62. *Straits* changed hands in Singapore at $4, and are offering here at $4½.

FIRE INSURANCE.—*Hongkongs* were sold in Hongkong at $295, and *Chinas* changed hands there at $82.

SHIPPING.—*Indo-Chinas* were placed at T49½ and T50.

SUGARS.—*China Sugar Refining* shares are wanted in Hongkong at $168. *Luzon Sugar Refining* shares have declined to $50.

MINING.—*Jelebu Mining and Trading* shares are offering at $9.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—*Shanghai Engineering and Dock* Preference shares changed hands at T101. *Hongkong and Whampoa Dock* shares have advanced in the South to 326 per cent. premium. *Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf* shares have been placed at T133½ to T135. *Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown* shares have advanced to $85 in Hongkong.

LANDS.—*Shanghai Land Investment* shares are wanted at T80, but are held for higher rates.

INDUSTRIAL.—*Major Brothers* shares changed hands at T40 ex div. In *Cotton Mill* shares business was done: *E-wos* at T78, *Internationals* at T82½, and *Laou-kung-mows* at T85/84½.

MISCELLANEOUS.—*Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ld.*—The report and accounts for 1898 have been published for the meeting of shareholders to be held on the 5th current. The balance of working account is T144,337.89, which is less than that of the preceding year by T1,325.34. The net profits, after deducting T15,405.07 for Depreciation, are T115,127.44, equal to 17.29 per cent on the Capital, against 18.53 per cent in 1897. Including a balance of T3,706.88 from the previous year, and deducting T41,806.45 paid in July as an interim dividend at the rate of 15/0 per share, there is a balance of T82,220.44 at credit of profit and loss account. The Directors propose to pay a final dividend of £1 5s. 0d. per share, at exchange 2/8 per tael, which will absorb T67,500, to place T10,000 to the Reserve Fund, which will then stand at T40,000, and to carry forward the balance of T4,720.44. *Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco* shares changed hands at T63/64½. The accounts of the *Shanghai-Langkat Tobacco Co.* were passed at the meeting of shareholders held on the 30th March.

LOANS.—*Country Club* 6 per cent Debentures were sold at T95.

LOANS.	Amount of Loan.	Outstanding.	Nominal Value.	Rate of Interest.	When Payable.	Return on Inv. allowing for Amortization.	Closing.
Shanghai Mun. Debentures—Issue 1890	T20,000.00	T8,000.00	T100	6 %	June & Dec.	(g) 5.87%	... (a) nom.
Do. 1891	T20,000.00	T20,000.00	T100	5½ %	Do.	(g) 5.96%	... (a) T97.50
Do. 1892	T50,000.00	T50,000.00	T100	5 %	Do.	(a) 6.16%	... (a) T90.00
Do. 1893	T125,000.00	T125,000.00	T100	5½ %	Do.	(g) 5.50%	... (a) T100.00
Do. 1894	T105,000.00	T105,000.00	T100	6 %	Do.	(g) 5.90%	... (a) T101.00
Do. 1895	T115,000.00	T115,000.00	T100	5 %	Do.	(g) 6.05%	... (a) T90.00
Do. 1896	T140,000.00	T140,000.00	T100	5 %	Do.	(g) 5.96%	... (a) T90.00
Do. 1897	T268,000.00	T268,000.00	T100	5 %	Do.	(g) 5.93%	... (a) T90.00
Do. 1898	T300,000.00	T300,000.00	T100	6 %	Do.	(g) 5.91%	... (a) T101.00
Lyceum Theatre Debentures	T17,000.00	T17,000.00	T25	4 %	(l) 31 Dec. 1899	...	... T16 00
Chinese Imp. Government Loan 1896 E	T1,635,700.00	T680,104.00	T250	7 %	Mar. & Sept.	(g) 7.00%	... (a) T250.00
Shanghai Land Inv. Co. Debentures. 1890	T250,000.00	T250,000.00	T100	6 %	May & Nov.	(g) 5.75%	... (a) T102 00
Do. Do. 1892	T250,000.00	T250,000.00	T100	5½ %	June & Dec.	(g) 6.05%	... (a) T95.00
Do. Do. 1894	T250,000.00	T250,000.00	T100	6 %	Mar. & Sept.	(g) 5.90%	... (a) T101.00
Do. Do. 1896	T250,000.00	T250,000.00	T100	5 %	June & Dec.	(g) 5.96%	.. (a) T90.00
Shanghai Waterworks Co. Debentures '94	T100,000.00	T100,000.00	T100	6 %	Mar. & Sept.	(g) 6.00%	... (a) T100.00
Do. " '96	T100,000.00	T400,000.00	T100	5 %	June & Dec.	(g) 5.46%	... (a) T95.00
Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co. ..	T400,000.00	T100,000.00	T100	6 %	June & Dec.	(g) 5.88%	... (a) T100.50
Perak Sugar C. Co. Debentures 1896...	T100,000.00	T100,000.00	T100	7 %	June & Dec.	(g) 7.00%	... (a) T100.00
Shanghai Gas Co. " 1897..	T100,000.00	T100,000.00	T100	5 %	April & Oct.	(g) 5.90%	... (a) T90.00

AUCTION SALES.

Auctions for the week ending 1st April, 1899, comprised the following Goods :—

	For the week.		Previous week.		Corresponding week last year.
Grey Shirtings	22,155 pcs.	against	19,745 pcs.	and	21,325 pcs.
White Shirtings	7,600 "	"	7,350 "	"	7,290 "
T-Cloths	1,930 "	"	940 "	"	1,170 "
Drills, English	240 "	"	210 "	"	60 "
Jeans	220 "	"	130 "	"	..... "
Sheetings	400 "	"	520 "	"	120 "
Turkey Red	100 "	"	150 "	"	1,280 "
Velvets	..... pcs.	against	..... pcs.	and	60 pcs.
Velveteens	... "	"	..... "	"	84 "
Cotton Italians	1,770 "	"	1,649 "	"	420 "
Camlets	690 "	"	250 "	"	390 "
Long Ells	710 "	"	230 "	"	... "
Lastings	320 "	"	300 "	"	210 "
Spanish Stripes	534 "	"	384 "	"	652 "

At *E-Wo*, 29th ulto.—

Grey Shirtings.—7-lbs.—350 pieces; *Eagle & Snake* T1.44⅞/45.

8.4-lbs.—3,480 pieces; *Black Lotus* T1.55½, *Man and Gong* T1.63½, *Boy and Melon* T1.75½/75⅞, *Red Crab* T1.80⅞, *Red Dragon and 6 Women* T1.89⅞/90, *Red Bell* T2.09/10⅛, *Red Tea Caddy* T2.17⅛, do. *XX* T2.12½/13, *Blue Man* T2.13½, *Blue Dragon E-wo* T2.26½, *Blue Tea Caddy DDD* T2.30½/31, *Blue 2 Tea Caddy CCC* T2.36, and *Blue 2 Tea Caddy* T2.57⅛.

10-lbs.—2,200 pieces; *Black Tea Caddy XX* T2.13½, *Red Crab* T2.39½, *Blue Dragon and Shield* T2.40, *Red Dragon and 6 Women* T2.40⅛, *Blue Dragon and Blue Bell* T2.41, *Man and Rabbit* T2.43⅛, *Man and Monster* T2.51½, *Green Dragon and 5 Men* T2.50½, *Blue Dragon E-wo* T2.52⅛, *Blue Tea Caddy DDD* T2.78½/79, and *Blue 2 Tea Caddy* T2.84.

10⅝-lbs.—100 pieces; *Six Brothers* T3.17.

11-lbs.—150 pieces; *Blue Dragon and 5 Men* T2.97½.

12-lbs.—1,980 pieces; *Red Lotus* T2.68½/69, *Man and Monster* T2.73½/73⅝, *Blue Bell* T2.50⅛/81, *Man and Elephant* T2.80½/80⅞, *Blue Lotus* T2.86½, *Man and Gun* T3.09, and *Fish Boat* T3.35½/35⅝.

12½-lbs.—50 pieces; *Round Phœnix* T3.35.

White Shirtings.—450 pieces; *Red Tea Caddy* T2.10. *House No. 3* T3.05, *Painted Phœnix EO* T3.57⅛, and *Blue Dragon No. 1* T3.78½, and *Bat and Peach* T3.80.

T-Cloths.—7-lbs.—1,390 pieces; *Man and Gong* T1.34⅛, *Feathers* T1.39½, *Red Tea Caddy* T1.56½, *Blue Dragon and Shield* T1.55½, and do. and *Crown* T1.70⅛.

Jeans.—8-lbs.—100 pieces; *Tiger and Tree* T2.44⅛.

Drills.—14lbs. 240 pieces; *Bat and Stag* T2.54½, *Blue Lion* T2.46⅞.

Sheetings.—14-lbs.—280 pieces; *Bull's Head* T2.66½/67½, *Blue Bell* T2.74/74½.

American.—14-lbs.—2,600 pieces; *Dog* T2.76½/77, *Bears Head* T2.69½/69⅝.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

At *Tuen-foong*, 30th ulto.—

Grey Shirtings.—6-lbs.—500 pieces; *Lotus* T0.81½/82.

7-lbs.—2,100 pieces; *Blue Britannia* T1.48½/49½, *Blue 4 Sisters* T1.51½/52½, and *Blue 3 Students* T1.75½/75½.

8.4-lbs.—4,225 pieces; *Green 9 Lions* T1.51, *Double Men* T1.58, *Blue Britannia* T1.69, *Blue 3 Students* T1.96½/96⅞, *Black Gold 3 Students* T2.12½/13½, *Red Emperor's Birthday* T2.14½/14½, *7 Sisters* T2.23/23¼, and *5 Brothers* T2.25¼/26.

10-lbs.—2,950 pieces; *Red Britannia* T2.38/40, *Red 3 Students* T2.38, *Red Emperor's Birthday* T2.52½, *Red 4 Sisters* T2.53/53¼, and *Painted 8 Literati* T2.81½/82.

10.12-lbs.—1,500 pieces; *Gold Britannia* T2.74, *18 Brothers* T2.10, and *Lily* T3.10⅞.

11-lbs.—750 pieces; *Painted 3 Students* T2.79½.

12-lbs.—1,520 pieces; *China Square* T2.78½/79½, *Nine Lions* T2.94½/94⅞, *Soldier* T2.88/89½, and *Lily* T3.32½/35.

12.12-lbs.—250 pieces; *9 Old Men* T3.55.

14.12-lbs.—250 pieces; *Gold Sun* T3.80.

White Shirtings.—64-reed.—1,900 pieces; *House Bright* T2.07½/06½, do. *Dull* T2.05½/05½, *Blue 2 Light House Bright* T2.09⅜/10, do. *Dull* T2.07, and *Black Gold 3 Students* T2.52/53.

72-reed.—5,250 pieces; *White Gold 3 Students* T2.64½, *Red 2 Sisters, Bright* T2.65, *Red 2 Light House Bright* T2.64, do. *Dull* T2.72½/73½, *Red Gold Star, Bright* T2.97/97½, do. *Dull* T2.90/90½, *Red 5 Star, Bright* T3.31½, *Painted 4 Sisters Bright* T2.97/98, do. *Dull* T3.05 05½, *Black Flag Chief* T3.27½, *Painted Grand Fathers* T3.70½/72½, *Lily* T3.70/70½, and *Student* T4.22.

T-Cloths.—7-lbs.—390 pieces; *Blue 3 Students* T1.34½, *Red Double Shield* T1.59, and *Red 3 Students* T1.66½.

8-lbs.—150 pieces; *Painted 3 Students* T2.18½.

Jeans.—8-lbs.—120 pieces; *Double Squirrel* T2.34½.

Sheetings.—14-lbs.—120 pieces; *Old Man Head A.* T2.87½.

Black Cotton Italians.—1,770 pieces; *Loo Loo Tung* T3.70, *Painted 9 Lions* T4.15/17½, *Painted 2 Sisters* T4.15, *Black Flag Chie* T4.00, *Students* T4.15, *Seven Sisters* T4.17½/20, *18 Literati* T4.30, *5 Brothers* T6.05/07½, and *Lily* T6.02½/05.

At *Nie Kee*, 1st inst.—

Turkey Reds.—144 pieces; *Green Fisher Man* 3½-lbs. T1 82, do. 4¾-lbs. T1.95.

AUCTION SALES OF WOOLLENS DURING THE WEEK.

Chops—	Scarlet.	Dk. Blue.	Dark Gentian	Gr. & N. Green.	Orange & Yellow.	Ash & Lav.	White	Purple	Black.	Brown & Mag.	Mauve.	Lt. Gr. & Mid „	Sales Pcs.
	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Total.
Camlets.													
Light House, s.s.g.p.pc.	14.02½	13.55	13.00	...	.....	...	...	...	11.80	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs....	20	10	10	...	...	Pink.	...	...	10	...	...	...	
9 Old Men, s.s.h. p. pc.	13.30/90	13.20/40	12.87½	13.40	13.07½	13.70	...	...	11.50	...	13.00	...	50
Sales, pcs	100	20	40	10*	10	10	...	...	10	...	10	...	210
Goose, p. pc.	13.55	.....	.. ...	13.00	12.91/13.27	13.60/71	...	...	...	12.14/20	...	...	
Sales, pcs.....	100	.. ...	...	20*	50	30	...	...	...	30*	...	...	230
Man & Horse, p. pc. ...	13.60/65	.. ...	12.60	13.00	12.90/13.16	...	...	...	...	13.18	...	...	
Sales pcs	120	.....	20	10*	30	...	...	...	...	20*	...	...	200
Long Ells.													
Light House, o.o.L p.pc.	7.05/10	.....	.....	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs.....	100	.....	.....	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Tiger & Ring, c.r.h.p.pc.	6.76	.....	... ..	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Sales, pcs. ...	100	.....	.....	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
HorseHead, H.D.B. p.pc.	6 82	.....	.....	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Sales, pcs.....	100	.....	.....	...	... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Double Phœnix, p. pc...	6.68/74	.....	.. ...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Sales, pcs. ...	300	.. ...	.. ...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	
Single Phœnix, p. pc...	6.30	.....	. ....	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	300
Sales, pcs. ...	20	.....	.....	...	... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Tiger, c.p.h. p. pc.....	5 27	.. ...	.....	...	.. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Sales, pcs.....	90	.....	.....	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
													90
Lastings.													
Ship, G.G.B., p. pc.....	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	...	...	...	11.45/47½	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs.....	... .	.....	.....	...	.....	...	...	...	180	...	...	...	
9 Old Men, F.F B. p.pc.	.. ...	.....	9.97½	...	.....	...	...	...	[illegible]/3.20	...	...	...	180
Sales, pcs.....	.....	... ..	20	...	.....	...	...	...	60	...	...	...	
Tiger, c.p.h. p. pc.....	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	...	...	...	10.71	...	...	...	100
Sales, pcs.....	.....	.....	.. ...	...	.. ...	...	...	...	40	...	...	...	
													40
Spanish Stripes													
9 Old Men, A A.B. p. yd.	0.54½/55½	0.53½	0.52¾	0.54½	.....	...	...	...	.....	0.57¾	...	...	
Sales, pcs.....	30	6	12	6*	.....	...	...	...	.....	6	...	...	
Double Phœnix, p. yd .	0.56½	.....	0.56.3/56.4	0.56	... ..	...	...	...	0.48.5	...	...	...	60
Sales, pcs.....	42	.....	24	6*	... ..	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	
Single Phœnix, p. yd.	0.56.8/57.4	... ..	0 55.9	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	78
Sales, pcs.....	60	.....	60		.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sea Horse, B.T.I. p. yd.	0.56.3/56 8	.....	.....	0.55.6	.....	0.50.2	...	...	...	...	...	...	120
Sales, pcs.....	72	.....	.....	12*	... ..	6*	...	...	...	...	...	0.55½/5.55	
Buffalo, p. yd.....	0.53.3/53½	.....	0.53.8	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	18*	108
Sales, pcs. ...	60	.. ...	6	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.53	
Goose, p. yd.....	0.53.7/54.1	.....	0.54.3	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	72
Sales, pcs.. ...	56	.....	6	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.5.23	
S., p. yd.	0.50.1	.....	0.49½	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	6*	48
Sales, pcs.....	6	... ..	6	...	.. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Lion, p. yd	0.52.2	.....	.....	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Sales, pcs	6	.....	.....	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Dragon, p. yd.....	0 54.2	.....	0.54.4	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Sales, pcs	18	.....	6	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.52.1	
												6	30

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 30th March, 1899, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 68 to 72 both numbers inclusive.

Goods.	Re-Exports and their Destinations.																
	Ningpo.	Wenchow.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Ichang & Chungking.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Japan.	Soochow & Hangchow.	Corea.	Vladivostok.	Local.	Sundries.
Grey Shirtings ..... Pcs.	2,845	...	15,495	6,050	8,935	40,500	2250	1,695	10,550	3,360	2125	...	1300	...	6,450	...	9,000	600
T-Cloths, 32-in. ..... "	470	...	1,835	735	3,318	2,449	...	1,525	6,845	300	4485	...	...	...	...	...	900	...
" 36-in. ..... "	240	...	50	...	325	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150	..	...	...	400	90
" Indian, 32 & 36-in.... "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	...
White Shirtings ..... "	1,000	...	2,040	2,011	3,764	11,520	200	1,630	10,638	1,396	220	...	...	...	980	...	2,600	4300
Drills, English & Indian. "	145	...	120	45	...	238	...	...	...	...	150	...	...	...	150	...	450	...
" Dutch ..... "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	450	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150	...
" American ..... "	30	...	930	225	75	1,875	...	5,235	8,220	6,090	..	...	...	...	...	...	600	...
Jeans, English & Indian. "	...	...	150	20	30	...	...	80	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	300	150
" Dutch ..... "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	...
" American ..... "	...	...	60	...	...	40	..	80	700	1,220	...	...	...	...	...	..	200	100
Sheetings, English ..... "	40	...	3,690	6,210	3,100	2,600	180	100	1,880	280	...	...	...	...	...	...	500	...
" Indian ..... "	...	...	...	60	60	...	...	200	...	1,700	...	...	...	...	...	...	240	...
" American..... "	240	...	40	...	460	185	...	8,110	26,580	35,115	...	...	...	...	...	...	800	...
Dyed Shirtings..... "	50	...	3,266	642	100	100	...	...	80	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	...
Blc. &Sp. S'tings, D.&W. "	...	...	...	...	100	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	...
Chintzes ..... "	240	...	640	120	240	870	...	160	655	180	...	...	...	...	...	...	300	...
Printed T-Cloths ..... "	240	...	1,893	1,560	1,932	2,435	...	837	3,273	2,560	716	60	...	...	60	...	500	...
Printed Twills ..... "	...	...	110	120	386	1,000	..	420	420	1,295	...	...	...	...	...	...	400	...
Turkey Red Shirtings... "	25	...	825	815	800	515	50	889	1,175	165	380	...	...	...	800	...	250	...
Velvets ..... "	174	...	...	30	30	134	..	...	12	56	...	...	...	...	...	...	60	...
Velveteens..... "	...	...	...	...	...	24	...	...	...	54	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	...
Handkerchiefs ..... Doz.	134	...	1,400	2,040	2,100	2,293	800	200	1,842	4,673	300	...	...	100	...	...	2 500	...
Muslins ..... Pcs.	...	...	200	100	93	400	...	500	3,700	600	505	...	...	...	2,240	...	400	...
Lenos & Balzarines ..... "	...	...	...	...	...	320	.	160	80	100	...	..	...	...	699	...	300	...
Cotton Yarn, Indian ...Pcls.	...	...	4,068	339	1,140	4,061	1329	78	840	2,043	50	...	...	...	...	...	450	...
" English ... "	...	...	6	3	33	723	...	48	51	24	...	...	...	...	24	...	30	...
" Japan ... "	...	...	213	1,032	2,297	2,275	...	426	150	2,406	30	...	..	—	...	...	150	...
" Shanghai.. "	...	..	75	30	351	75	...	..	1,635	...	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spanish Stripes, Woollen Pcs.	36	...	36	48	12	72	...	18	30	6	6	..	12	...	...	...	72	...
" Cotton. "	...	...	108	30	...	78	...	108	408	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	72	...
Medium & Broad Cloths. "	18	...	18	30	42	74	...	20	249	110	...	...	...	...	...	.	100	...
Cambets ..... "	40	...	50	50	70	220	20	...	40	...	70	...	...	...	...	...	140	...
Long Ells..... "	...	...	80	220	40	360	...	...	60	200	20	...	...	...	...	...	120	...
Lastings ..... "	..	...	30	...	100	220	...	...	860	519	40	...	...	...	20	...	120	...
Italian Cloth ..... "	...	...	210	210	...	720	100	90	250	1,020	...	...	...	...	60	...	160	...
Cotton Lastings & Italians "	735	...	2,745	1,220	1,073	10,158	150	2,213	7,413	4,852	90	...	...	...	190	...	600	...
Plain & Figured Orleans. "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cotton Flannels..... "	42	...	...	...	20	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	...
do. Japan..... "	...	...	...	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lead—in Pigs .....Pcls.	73	...	13	25	442	1,231	...	37	61	288	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iron, Nail Rod ..... "	63	...	983	164	67	91	...	..	426	924	15	...	...	61	...	...	...	...
Kerosine Oil, American.Cases	500	...	4,500	1,350	660	20,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7280	...	...	...	...
" Russian... "	500	...	1,700	700	2,000	7,500	...	...	4,500	...	2500	...	...	230	...	...	...	...

Goods.	Total Deliveries.			Total Imports.			Stocks at date are based on the Chamber of Commerce Returns on 31st Dec., 1898.	
	As above.	For the year from 1st Jan. 1899.	Against last year to same term.	For the week.	For the year from 1st Jan. 1899.	Against last year to same term.	At date Estimated.	Against 31st March, 1898.
Grey Shirtings .. ..Pcs.	111,125	1,197,152	1,366,313	112,390	1,142,572	538,144	1,260,961	626,838
T-Cloths, 32-in. ..... "	22,862	185 992	232,122	18,970	183,737	130,280	318,416	213,158
" 36-in. ..... "	1,255	13,048	19.297	3,187	10,921	28,063	45.092	76,221
" Indian, 32 & 36-in.. "	2 0	8,290	20,50.0	.....	7,500	6,420	50,800	47,920
White Shirtings ... . "	42,289	460,104	471,006	61,865	467,251	240,483	405,525	339,477
Drills, Eng. & Indian ..... "	1,298	21,515	37,359	702	29,501	30,856	58,857	49,191
" Dutch ..... "	600	3,580	9,485	.....	1,860	.....	9,635	11,200
" American ..... "	23,280	168,500	178,050	17,910	396,211	78,975	319.091	444,925
Jeans, Eng. & Indian ..... "	930	11,510	26,340	640	15.050	36,369	46,713	40,649
" Dutch ..... "	100	12,050	10,960	.....	8,240	7,390	4:566	21,130
" American ..... "	2,400	14,420	11,880	.....	34.000	16,600	22,370	8,720
Sheetings, English ..... "	18,720	134,931	168,542	26,980	218,184	75,153	141,495	?
" Indian..... "	2,260	8,100	4,720	.....	7,820	... ...	1,190	3,364
" American ..... "	71,530	523,784	477,140	126,970	1,006,420	180,480	694,361	573,340
Dyed Shirtings..... "	4,438	25,112	41,735	609	16,869	13,448	6,982	3,082
Blc. &Spnl. Shts., D.&W. "	300	4 605	7,869	.....	),865	1,734	14,919	17,907
Chintzes .... "	3,425	31,695	44,002	293	10,302	976	2,952	37,147
Printed T-Cloths .. .. "	16 066	113,413	139,280	5,171	85.184	26,923	221,946	317,643
Printed Twills..... "	4,151	29,517	26,524	732	22,171	2,446	48.105	79,391
Turkey Red Shirtings ..... "	6,419	56 059	59,052	3,430	66,7:7	12,601	50,724	43,549
Velvets ..... "	496	3,204	4,536	.....	793	1,176	4,198	15,715
Velveteens..... "	108	1,574	1,608	.....	14	96	9,299	12,607
Handkerchiefs ....Doz.	18,382	83,768	98,669	12,310	125,712	23,030	150,186	104,012
Muslins ....Pcs	8,738	44,625	62,191	5,796	111,819	24,060	113,632	86,745
Lenos & Balzarines	1,658	12,540	36,103	14,295	73,323	36,231	76,965	13,608
Cotton Yarn, Indian ... Pcls.	14,378	116,563	164,637	7,941	167,466	145,668	134,468	91,143
" English ..... "	942	6 594	6,673	342	6,135	6,990	6,385	3,405
" Japan ..... "	8,959	54,847	58,644	11,008	80,262	73,796	55,148	23,879
" Shanghai.. ... "	2,181	20,173	38,793	... ...	.....	.....	?	?
Spanish Stripes, Woollen...Pcs.	348	6 699	6,479	528	6,248	4,260	7,343	9,813
" Cotton ... "	864	8,869	8,712	... ...	4,966	2,616	4,352	11,974
Med. & Broad Cloths	661	3,405	4,636	670	3,113	3.574	11,140	13,624
Cambets .... "	700	7,474	8,959	.....	5 807	6,367	7,683	15,368
Long Ells..... ..... "	1,100	11,160	10,615	... ...	4,926	4,740	26,846	42,560
Lastings..... ..... "	1,909	10,795	13,458	100	10,017	5,904	18,058	16,241
Italian Cloth .... "	2,820	16,824	19.648	330	10 139	17,034	34,756	54,386
Cotton Lastings & Italians "	31,439	221,762	254,204	7,926	224,082	191,220	355,092	397,016
Plain & Figured Orleans ... "	... ...	.....	180	.....	.....	.....	490	1,720
Cotton Flannels..... ..... "	562	10,629	6,172	.....	6.383	6,083	3,020	58,462
" " Japan..... "	78	946	646	60	1,906	268	?	?
Lead in Pigs ....Pcls.	2,170	11,246	15,497	3,260	17,567	17,158	10,324	2,161
Iron—Nail Rod .... "	2,720	23,505	29,965	.....	10,260	16,233	105,035	41,167
Kerosene Oil, American ...Cases	34,290	438,879	618,117	.....	182,352	577.064	732,346	685,464
" Russian ... "	19,650	262,725	259,593	51,000	307 692	29,771	163,273	?

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

SHARES.

Shanghai, 3rd April, 1899.

SHARES.	No.	Value.	Paid up.	Position per Last Report. Reserve.	At Working Account.	Date.	Last Divd. &c. To Shareholders	When paid or due.	Average dividends for 3 years.	Return on investment on average of 3 years' divids.	Cash Quotation Closing.	
Banks.										per cent.		Tls.
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank. Co.	80,000	$125	$125	$10,000,000	$834,636 46	31-12-98	*£2½	20- 2-99	$29.01	6.27	$462.50	337.62
Bank of China & Japan Ld. ordinary shares	106,701	£8	£4	.....	£149,481.16.3	31-12-97	None.	.....	...	.....	£1.0 0	7.50
Do. deferred do.	1,105	£1	£1	... ...	...	... ...	...	... ...	...	.....	£5.5.0	.....
National Bank of China, Ld. ..	40,453	£10	£8							6.00	20.00	14.60
Do.	3,818	£10	..	$170,670.80	.....	31-12-98	†$1.18	1- 3-97	$1.20	...	nominal	nom.
Do. Founders'	750	£1	£1							...	$26.00	18.98
Insurance (Marine.)												
Union In. Society of Canton, Ld.	10,000	$250	$50	$1,30-,000.0((c) 861,967.75	$874,132.12	30- 6-98	†$17	21-10-98	$16.00	6.90	$230.00	167.90
China Traders' Ins. Co., Ld. ...	24,000	$83.33	$25	$900,000.00 c 124,322.64	$129,342.63	30- 4-98	†$3	11-10-98	$4.33	6.98	$62.00	45.26
North-China Ins. Co., Ld.....	5,000	£100	£25	Tls.250,000.00	Tls.237,642.60	0- 6-98	†Tls.20	29- 4-98	Tls.22	9.85	.....	185.00
Yangtsze Insurance Ass'tion, Ld	6,948	$100	$60	$516,000.00	$365,858.07	31-12-97	†$6	23- 4-98	$12.00	10.00	$120.00	87.60
Canton Insurance Office	10,000	$250	$50	$1,150,000.00	$5,324.5(	31-12-97	†$4	26- 10-98	$10.33	7.38	$140.00	102.20
Straits Insurance Co., Ld.	30,000	$100	$20	$3,920.00	$249,521.11	31-12-97	†$2	27- 3-96	$0.67	14.59	$4.50	3.28
Insurance (Fire.)												
Hongkong Fire Ins. Co., Ld....	8,000	$250	$50	$1,069,316.00	$296,540.60	31-12-98	†$24½	1- 3-98	$24.33	8.25	$295.00	215.35
China Fire Insurance Co., Ld..	20,000	$100	$20	$1,636,972.10	$120 486 20	31-12-98	†$6.00	21- 3-99	$6.22	7.59	$82.00	59.86
Shipping.												
H'kong, C'ton & M'cao S.B.Co..	90,000	$15	$15	d $609,000	$7,989.97	31-12-98	*$1.20	31- 1-99	$2.33	8.32	$28.00	20.44
Indo-China Steam Nav. Co.	49,589	£10	£10	(c) £165,253.4.4	£1,370.7.0	31-12-97	†$3.73	12- 7-98	$2.93	5.86	.....	50.00
Douglas Steamship Co. Ld. ...	20,000	£50	£50	$174,169.13 c 39,906.69	... ...	30- 6-98	†$6.00	27- 9-98	$6.00	10.56	$57.00	41.61
Ch. Mutual S.N.Co. pref. shares.	16,736	£10	£10									
Do. ord. do.	1,231	£10	£10	c£17,366.1.0	£1,305.16.11	31-12-97	*3%	21- 3-99	₹4.48	6.14	... ..	73.00
Do. do. do.	15,505	£10	£5	d£123,568.17.0			†10%	21- 3-99	₹5.52	.....	.....	nom.
							†10%	21- 3-99	₹2.76	8.36	... ..	33.00
Sugar Companies.												
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co. Ld.	5,000	₹50	₹50	..	$76,709.09	31- 8-98	†₹3	17 11-98	₹1.67	3.88	.....	43.00
China Sugar Refining Co. Ld...	20,000	$100	₹100	$300,000	27,360.15	31-12-98	†$12	23- 3-99	$12.50	7.40	$169.00	123.37
Luzon Sugar Refining Co. Ld..	7,000	$100	₹100	none	$89,819.96	31-12-98	†$3	23- 3-98	$1.00	2.00	$50.00	36.50
Mining.												
Sheridan Con. M. & M. Co., Ld.	20,000	₹100	₹100	.....	$154,503.62	31-12-97	None.	.....	...	... ...	.....	4.00
Punjom Mining Co. Ld.	59,650	$5	$5								.....	
Do. pref. shares.	30,000	$1	$1	... ..	$19,840.98	31-12-98	None.	.....	...	... ...	$5.50	4.02
Jelebu Mining & Trading Co. Ld	45,000	$5	$5								$1.25	0.91
Raub A'lian Gold Min. Co. Ld.	200,000	£1	14/10	..... none	$86,773.04	16 8-98	*5%	15-10-94	$0.48	5.05	$8.50	6.20
Docks, Wharves and Godowns.					£2,361.17.11	31- 3-97	$0.52	12-12-98	$0.76	0.13	$60.00	43.80
Boyd & Co., Ld., Founders' ...	200	₹100	₹100									
Boyd & Co., Ld., Ordinary....	7,800	₹100	₹100	₹220,000.00	₹8,585.40	30- 4-98	†₹117	29- 6 8	₹78.00	.....	... ..	nom.
S. C. Farnham & Co., Ld.	7,500	₹100	₹100	₹350,000	₹19,464.50	30- 6-98	†₹15	29- 6-98	₹13.67	6.93	..	197.50
S'hai E. S. & Dock Co., Ld. ord.	6,000	₹100	₹100	.....			†₹12	16- 9-98	₹12.67	7.24	.....	175.00
Do. Founders'	200	₹100	₹100	... ..	₹25,319.63	30- 4-98	None.	.....	...	...	...	95.00
Do. Pref.	1,300	₹100	₹100	.....	.....	.....	... ..	...	...	.....	.....	225.00
H'kong & W'poa Dock Co., Ld.	12,500	$125	$125	$300,000	$92,194.75	31-12-98	*16%	28- 2-99	$33.33	6.27	$531.25	101.00
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co ...	15,100	₹100	₹100	.....	₹22,713.67	31-12-98	†$19	22- 3-99	$9.17	6.79	... ..	387.81
H'kong & K'loon Wh. & G. Co., Ld	20,000	$50	$50	$64,229.56	$44,544.39	31-12-98	†$3.50	20- 2-99	$3.42	4.02	$85.00	135.00
Lands.												62.05
Sh. Land Investment Co., Ld.	26,000	₹50	₹50	₹205,955.11	₹5,480.83	31-12-98	†₹3.00	14- 2-99	₹5.08	6.16	...	82.50
H'kong Land Invest. & A. Co. Ld.	50,000	$100	$50	$1,250,000	$67,854.93	31-12-98	16%	26- 1-99	$4.33	5.56	$78.00	56.94
Kowloon Land & Building Co. Ld	5,960	$50	$30	none	$550.70	31-12-98	†$1.00	1- 2-99	$0.93	4.43	$21.00	15.33
Humphreys Estate & F. Co. Ld.	37,000	$10	$10	$25,000.00	$519.03	31-12-98	16%	31- 2-99	$0.63	7.00	9.00	6.57
Industrial.												
Shanghai Gas Co.....	3,000	₹100	₹100	₹100,000	₹38,653.55	31-12-98	†$8.00	9- 1-99	₹14.17	7.13	.....	202.00
Major Brothers, Ld.....	5,500	₹50	₹50	.....	₹377.73	31-12-98	†₹2	17- 3-99	₹0.67	... ...	.....	40.00
Ewo Cotton Sp. & W. Co., Ld.	10,000	₹100	₹100	...	$17,649.89	31-10-98	†₹3.50	24-11-97	...	.....	... ..	78.00
International Cotton Man. Co. Ld	8,384	₹100	₹100	... ..	$75,289.97	30- 9-98	†₹3 00	30- 4-98	..	.....	..	82.50
Laou-kung-mow Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ld....	8,000	₹100	₹100	... ...	.....	31-12-98						
Soy Chee Cotton Spin. Co. Ld.	2,000	₹500	₹500	₹2,306.61	$18,337.61	31-12-98	†₹4	1- 8-98	..	.....	.....	84.50
Yah Loong Cotton Spin. Co., Ld	7,500	₹100	₹100	.....	$44,052.61	31-12-98	†₹20	1- 2-98	... ..	....	....	400.00
H'kong Cotton S. W. & D. Co., Ld.	9,000	$100	$100	... ..	.....	...	None	... .	...	... ...	.....	55.00
S'hai Eis Actien Gesellschaft...	540	₹100	₹100	₹10,0 .0.00	... ..	31-10-98	First year			...	$85.00	62.05
Shanghai Ice, Cold Storage & Refrigeration Co., Ltd. ...	3,000	₹25	₹25	.....	.....	.....	†₹12	19- 1-99	₹9.00	10.84	... ..	83.00
Shanghai Rice Mill Co. Ld. ..	2,000	₹25	₹25	... ..	₹648.29	31-12-98	First year		...	... ..	... ..	28.00
China Flour Mill Co., Ld	4,000	₹50	₹50	.....	₹1,659.27	31-12-98	†3%	16- 2-99	₹1.33	.....	.....	25.00
American Cigarette Co., Ld. ...	1,500	₹50	₹50	... ..	3,282.71	31-12-98	None.	.....	...	... ...	.....	40.00
S'hai Feather Cleaning Co., Ld.	300	₹500	₹500	..	... ...	... ..	†₹3	9- 3-99	...	... ...	.....	60.00
Tugs and Cargo Boats.							None	... .	...	.....	.....	400.00
Shanghai Tug Boat Co., Ld.	1,000	₹100	₹100	₹82,500.00	₹681.17	31-12-98						
Paku Tug and Lighter Co., Ld.	8,680	T.₹50	T.₹50	T.₹4,000.00 c 22,665.60	$9,714.66	31-12-98	†₹5	22- 3-99	₹20	9.30	.....	215.00
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co. Ld....	2,000	₹100	₹100	₹130,425.39	₹1,518.66	31-12-98	†6%	28- 2-99	₹5.17	7.77	T.₹75.00	.....
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co., Ld.	1,000	₹100	₹100	₹61,152.84	₹1,436.27	31-12-98	†7½	3- 3-99	₹13.67	9.11	.....	150.00
Miscellaneous.							†6%	3- 3 99	₹12.00	8.96	... ...	134.00
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ld.	7,200	£20	£20	₹30,000.00	₹8,706.64	31-12-97	†$5.81	26- 7-98	₹14.26	5.19	.....	275.00
Tientsin Waterworks Co., Ld..	575	₹100	₹100	.....	$T5,5s7.62	30- 4-98	...	.....	...	.....	T₹100.00	.....
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Co.	13,000	$20	$20	₹78,500.00	₹164.31	31-12-98	†$2.20	16- 3-99	₹5.19	8.03	.....	64.50
Shanghai-Langkat Tob. Co., Ld.	3,980	₹100	₹100	...	$1219,716.12	31-12-98	None.	.....	...	.....	..... (5)	67.50
Do. New issue	3,980	₹100	₹75	.....	.....	.....	None.	.....	...	.....	... ..	50.00
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ld.	1,800	₹50	₹50	.....	₹4,040.09	31-12-97	†10%	23- 4-98	₹4.33	6.41	.....	67.50
J. Llewellyn & Co., Ld.....	1,200	$100	$100	... ..	$1,166.77	31-12-97	†$1	1- 6-98	$1.33	2.31	$57.50	41.97
Hall & Holtz, Ld	6,250	$20	$20	$145,000.60	$6,031.59	28- 2-98	₹2	9-11-98	4.00	12.12	$33.00	24.09
A. S. Watson & Co., Ld.....	60,000	$10	$10	$125,000	$9,239.01	31-12-97	25%	28-11-98	1.00	7.69	$13.00	9.49
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Ld.	8,200	£1	£1	.....	£135.13.10	31-12.96	None.	... ...	...	... ..	.....	nom.
Hongkong Electric Co., Ld. ...	30,000	$10	$10	none	$5,762.15	30- 4-98	†5%	9- 7-98	$0.50	5.29	$13.00	9.49
Central Stores, Ld.	6,000	$20	$20	.....	$24,883.94	31- 1-99	None.	... ...	...	.....	$10.75	7.85

J. P. BISSET & Co.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.